



Welcome to City Hall.

@abhinemani



Here's your equipment



Homework.

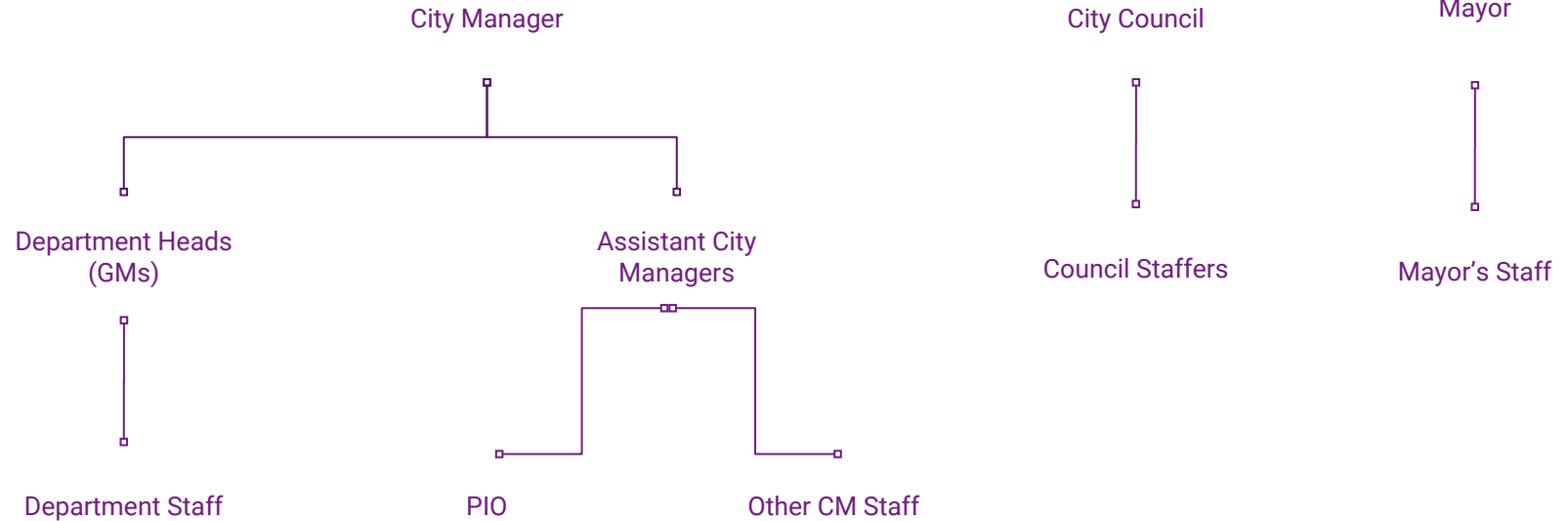


Different Structures & Roles

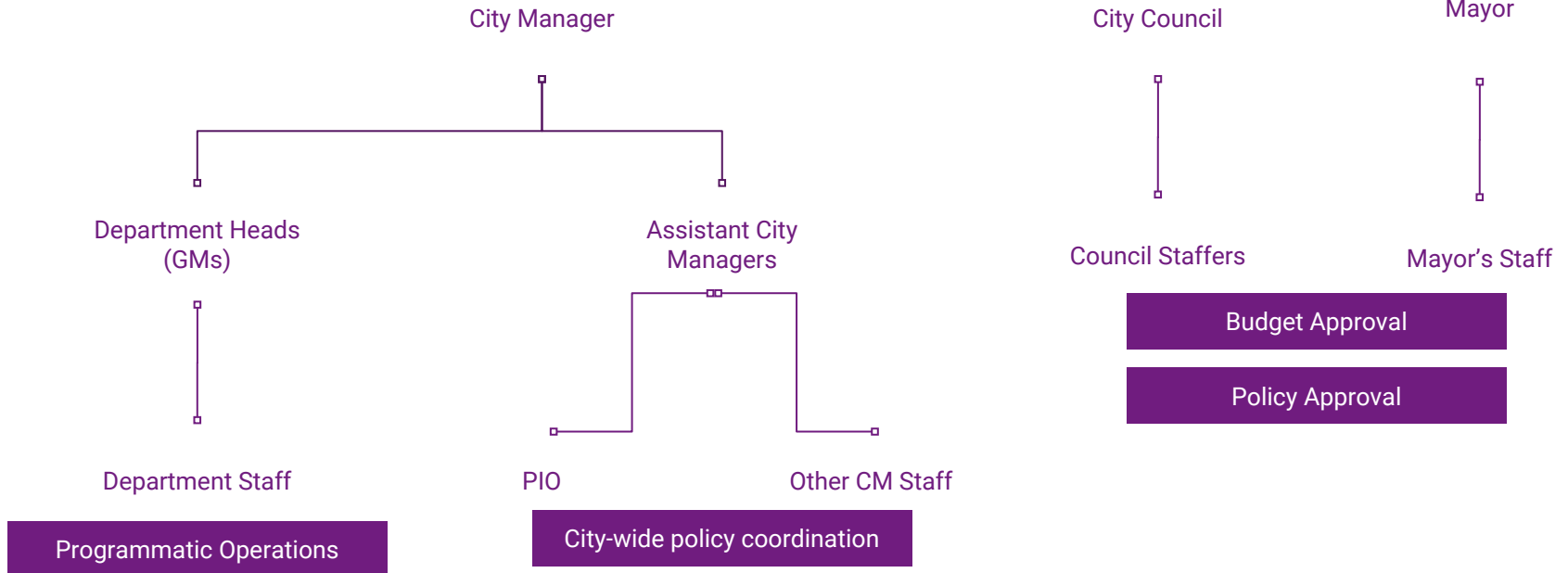
It's complicated. Truly.

- City Manager v Mayor v Council
 - Weak mayor v strong mayor
- Departmental Staff
- Other electeds
 - Eg DA, Controller
- CTO v CIO v CDO
 - Chief Information Officer
 - Chief Data Officer
 - Chief Technology Officer

Council-Manager; Weak mayor

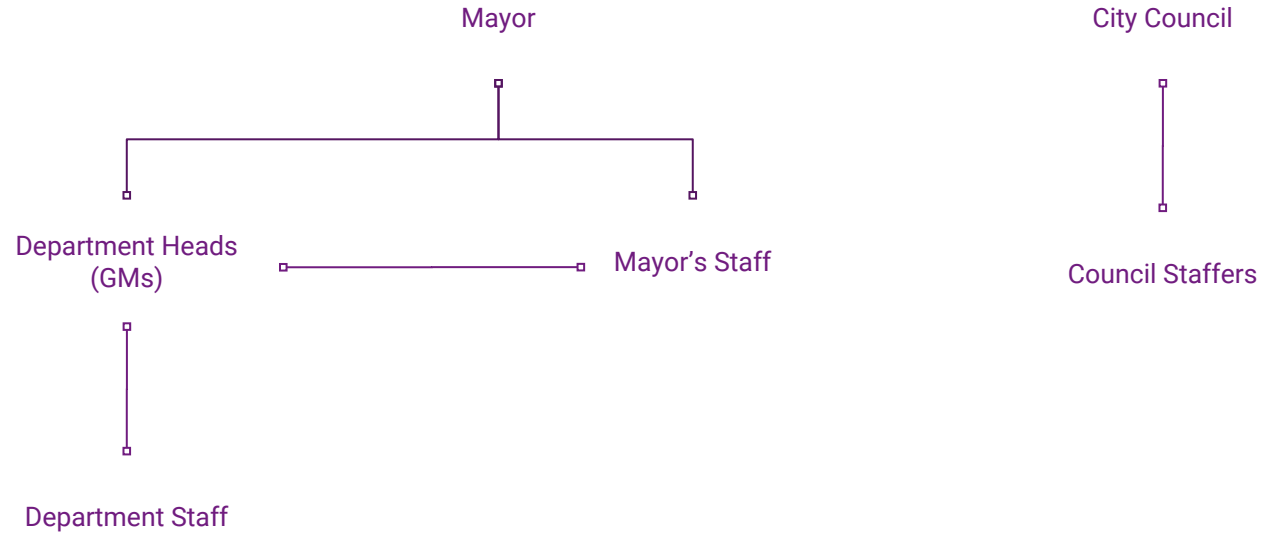


Council-Manager; Weak mayor

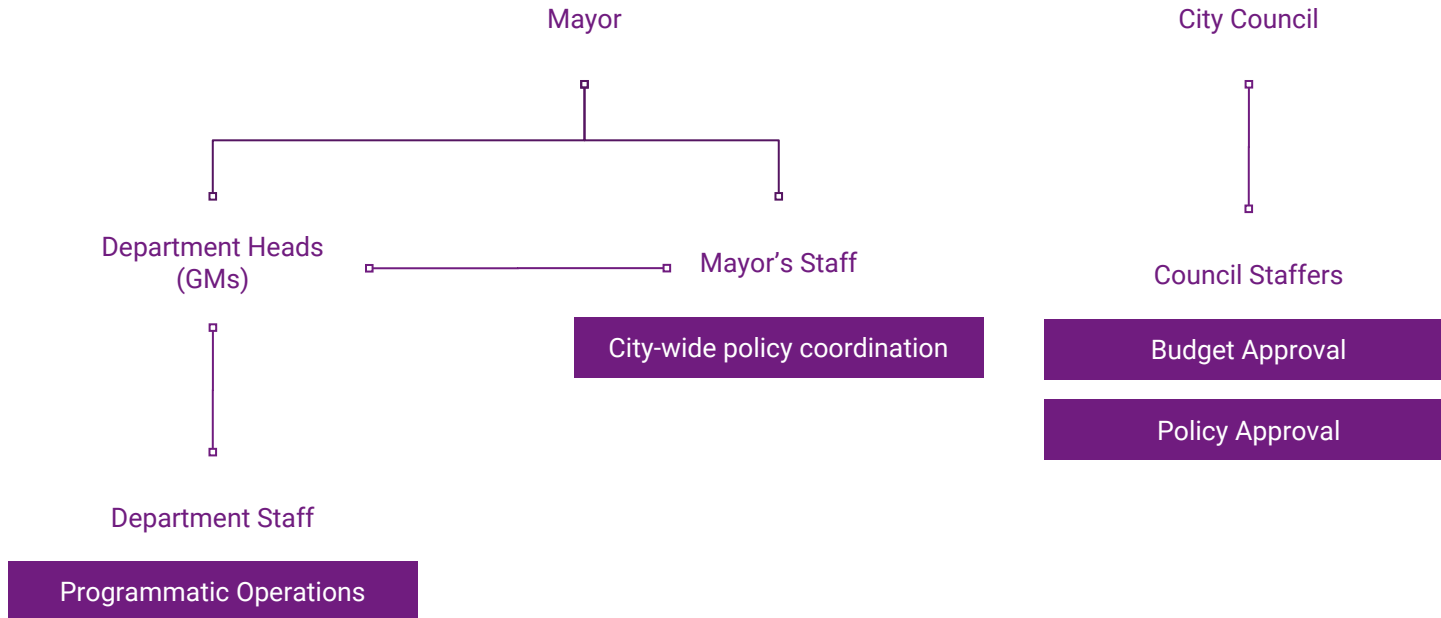




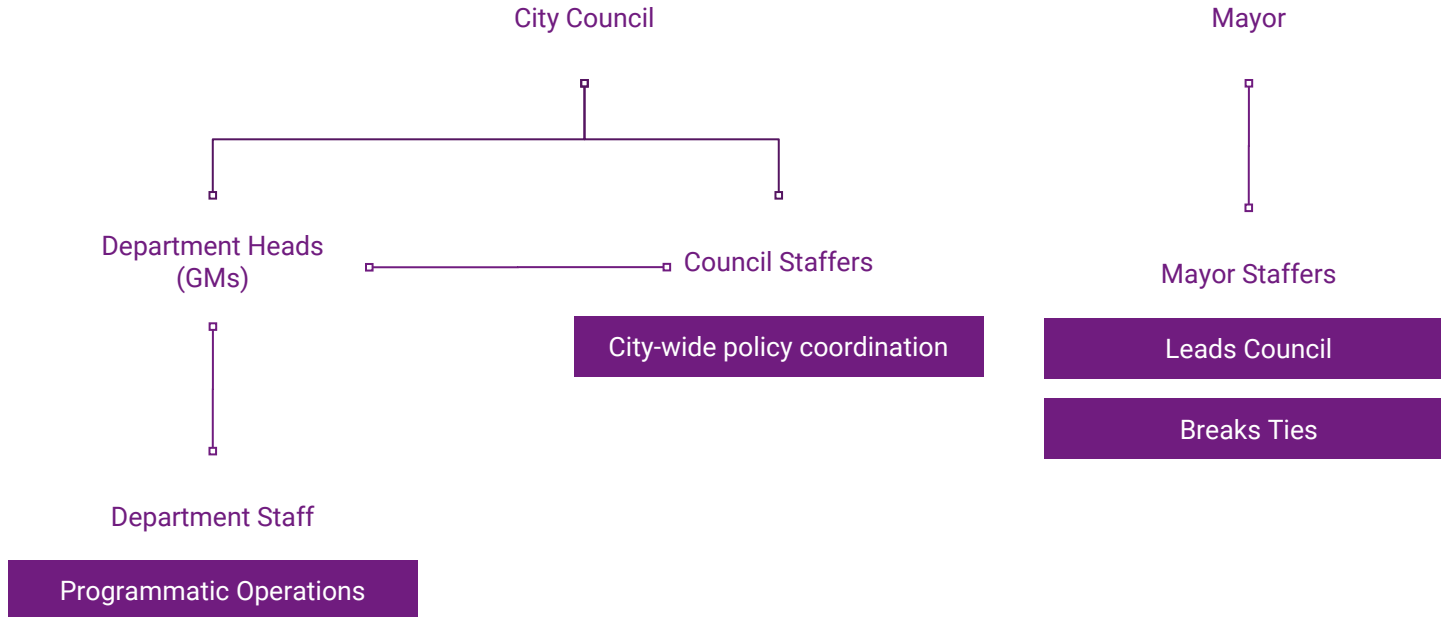
Mayor-Council; Strong Mayor



Mayor Council; Strong Mayor



Mayor Council; Weak Mayor





About City Managers

Think Leo from the West Wing.

- City Managers are usually “career-bureaucrats” that often go from city to city in a region.
 - Full-time jobs; long-term appointments
- Main responsibility typically centers around **budgetary** compliance and **legal** compliance.
- They often have **discretionary budgetary** flexibility — or at least know where money is.
 - Council usually still has to approve any significant departure from the approved budget.



About City Councils

Basically the opposite of House of Cards

- Elected. Usually part-time.
Historically very low voter turnout.
- Size of council ranges: 7-15 (or more).
- Councils primary authority is always to approve the budget, and usually to approve any significant changes to the city code/charter.
- Council members are often considering bids for higher office (eg assembly), so are eager for press.
- Council members are very connected to their individual districts and constituents.



About Department Heads & Staff

Watch Parks and Rec ;)

- Department heads are usually nominated by mayor or CM; approved by City Council.
- Make budget recommendations for their departments each fiscal year; budget is always a top concern.
 - Show ROI
- Departmental staff is usually “decentralized” meaning that you’ll find IT, BI, policy, etc in every department.
- Department people are “civil service” meaning they are in it for the long haul, and incentivized by impressing their superiors and not screwing up.



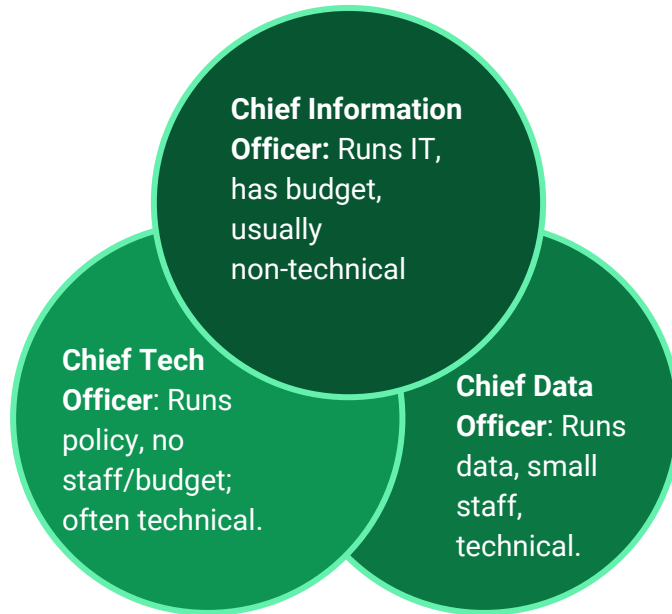
About Mayors & Mayors Staff

Think Veep :)

- All mayors play a ceremonial role, whether if it giving awards or attending city functions; they all give many speeches and host events.
- Most mayor's offices are fairly small as they are closely scrutinized.
- Mayor's staff usually come from their campaign. Roles include chief of staff, policy director, and communications director; some interns as well.
- Sometimes (usually in larger cities) mayor's will appoint C-Level executives with no formal, but informal authority (see next).

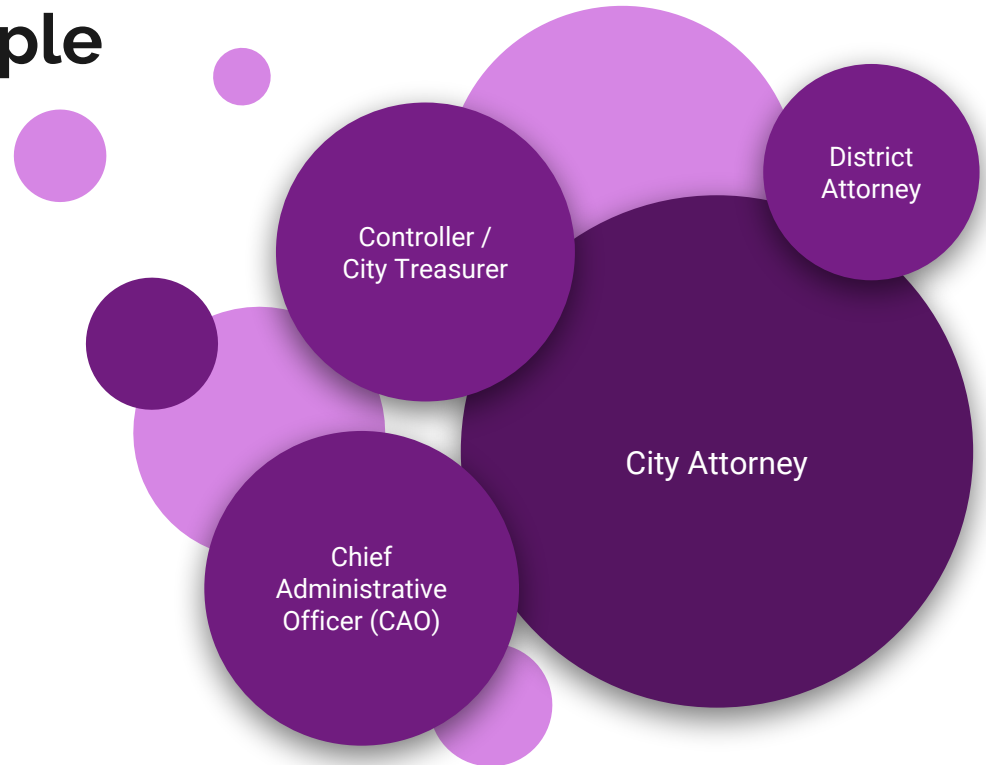


The Tech “C-Suite”





Other Important People



Learnings.

Cities are not counties.

- Cities don't run hospitals or schools (usually). Counties do, so they have lots more money.
- Counties are usually run by a elected set of supervisors.
- Counties often get less national press but locally their actions are closely monitored (but usually boring).

Most people have no authority.

- Decisions are made by groups.
- Always empower your contacts.
- Cities — like all governments — are designed to be slow.

Cities talk to each other.

- At every serious level of local government (Mayor, City Manager, CIO, etc) there is a major trade association everyone goes to.
- People rely on those groups to talk about what's working.
- There end up being very strong personal bonds between city officials from different jurisdictions.

Welcome.

**(And don't forget to get your ID
made.)**

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