



OFFICE OF THE  
CITY TREASURER  
MELISSA CONYEARS-ERVIN



# About Melissa

Melissa Conyear's Ervin, 2019 City Treasurer for the City of Chicago and former State Representative for the 10th District. She believes in the promise of opportunity and the strength of families to effectively address the needs of our communities. As the product of a single-parent household, Melissa has seen firsthand the value of education and faith from her mother. Through hard work and determination, Melissa became the first in her family to graduate from college and earned an MBA from Roosevelt University. She has more than 15 years of experience serving the community in the insurance industry as a manager for Allstate and CS Insurance Strategies. Melissa is well qualified and intimately aware of the challenges in this diverse and vibrant City of Chicago.

Melissa has served as a mentor for high school girls and a co-chair of events for the community, including the popular back-to-school festival that provides school supplies for over 1,000 kids. Melissa is married, has a daughter, and is a proud member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Melissa and her husband live in Garfield Park with their young daughter, Jeneva. Melissa also serves as the youth superintendent at Mt. Vernon Church and participates in a youth mentoring program for teenage girls. She also founded a woman's book club that draws members from Roscoe Village to Lawndale

As the former state representative for the 10<sup>th</sup> district, she sponsored the improved Illinois education funding formula that directed over \$221 million in additional funding to Chicago Public Schools. She was also the chief sponsor of bipartisan legislation that protected funding for child care assistance, a service that allows many working parents to stay in the workforce.

As City Treasurer, Melissa plans to focus her private-sector and financial training on ways to bring development into Chicago's neighborhoods. Chicago's billions of dollars of municipal deposits should be leveraged to help Chicago communities grow at the same rate, regardless of their zip code. Melissa believes Chicago's investments should observe a triple bottom line, ensuring city money isn't used to harm the environment or working families.

# Melissa's Financial Accountability and Transparency Plan

1. **Move City Council Office of Financial Analysis and Conduct City's Annual Financial Analysis** – The responsibility of providing the Mayor, City Council, and public with critical information about the City's finances and budget would be absorbed by the office of the Treasurer. By incorporating this office, and the budget office staff to support it, under the Treasurer's responsibilities, the Treasurer would be tasked with providing detailed analyses of bond issues, revenue projections, and budgetary fiscal impact statements to the Mayor, City Council, and the public.
2. **Conduct the Financial Analysis of Chicago Public Schools and Sister Agencies** – Under the Representative's plan, the office of the Treasurer will be empowered to order audits and conduct the annual financial analyses of Chicago Public Schools and the City's sister agencies.
3. **Perform Financial Analysis of Chicago's Pension Funds** – Under Representative Conyears-Ervin's plan, the Treasurer will be authorized to order audits and conduct the financial analysis of Chicago pension funds, as well as author a comprehensive financial report.
4. **One Location for All Financial Analysis and Reports** – The Treasurer will create and utilize a web portal with records of all past and future financial analyses, audits, fiscal impact notes, and general ledgers of all financial bodies in Chicago.

Melissa is prepared to meet this challenge and considers it an honor to serve the City of Chicago as its Treasurer. She cares deeply about the community and will work diligently to restore the integrity, honesty and dedication that the entire City of Chicago deserves.