

Internship for Mayor Cranley at Cincinnati City Hall

Anna Oestreich

INTRODUCTION



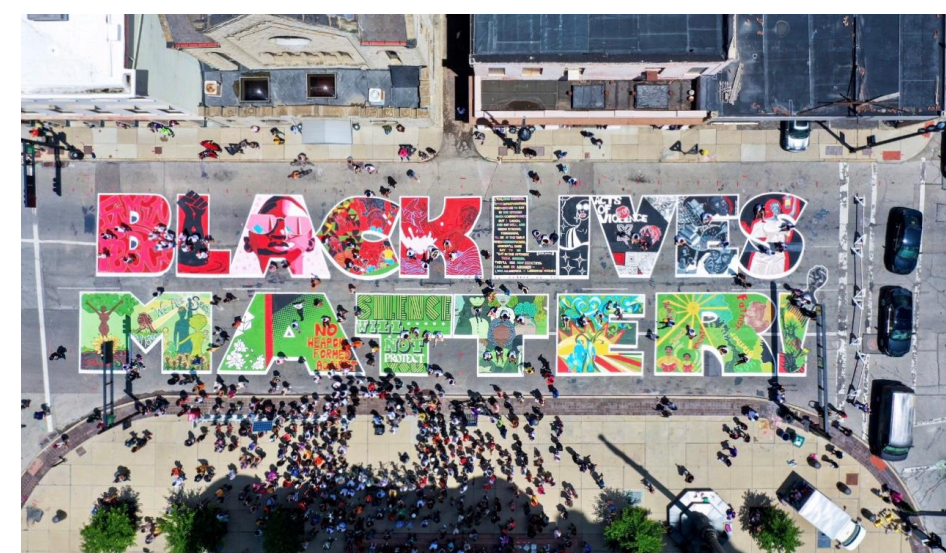
Me standing in front of City Hall

Background

- I worked in Mayor Cranley's office at Cincinnati City Hall from June to August 2020.
- Mayor John Cranley's mission statement is "Mayor John Cranley believes that being part of something bigger than oneself is how to lead a meaningful life. Inspired by family and faith, Mayor Cranley believes that public service should prioritize the common good to leave the world better than we found it while helping those who are in need. Those are the values that he and his wife Dena are passing to their son Joseph, and the values that guide him as mayor."
- I found it by doing a google search for policy internships in Cincinnati and the application was on the Cincinnati government website.

On the Job

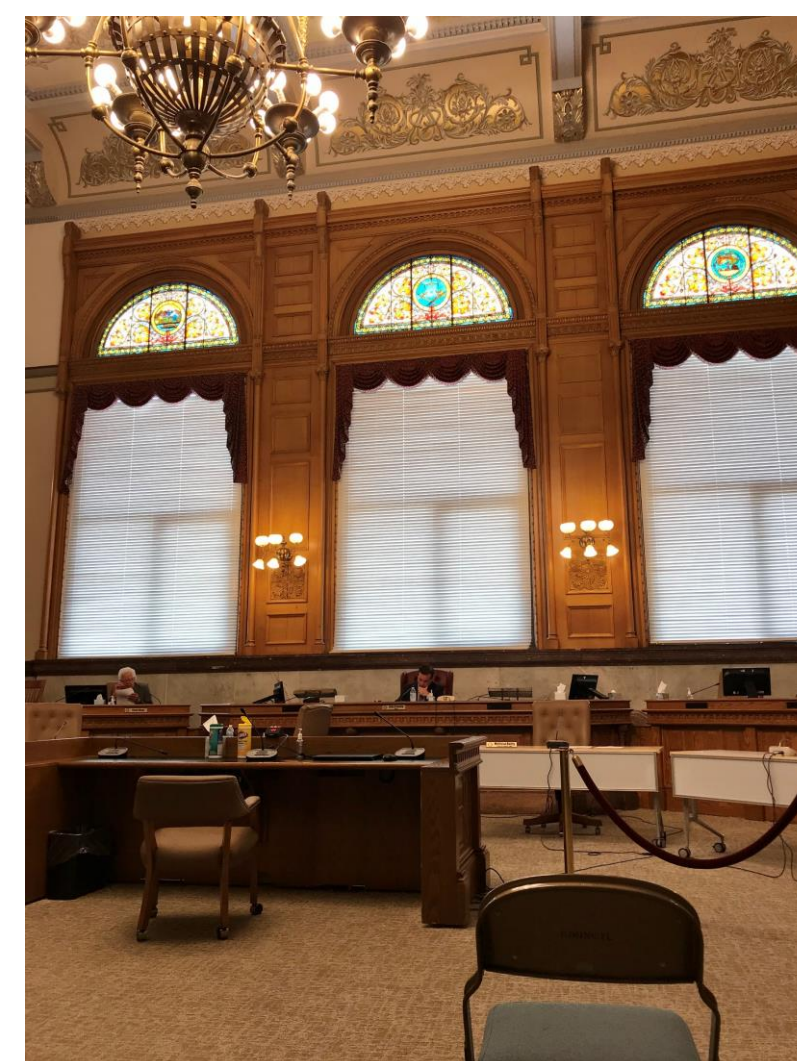
- Answered phone calls, listened to constituents, and appropriately addressed questions and concerns.
- I also learned how government works day-to-day by attending council meetings and press conferences.
- I guided people through the process of completing the 2020 Census by tabling throughout the city.
- Everyday was different, but a typical day would be spent in the office of the mayor answering phone calls and gaining experience with local government. I gained more skills interacting with the public, and there was wonderful comradery and teamwork amongst me and my coworkers.



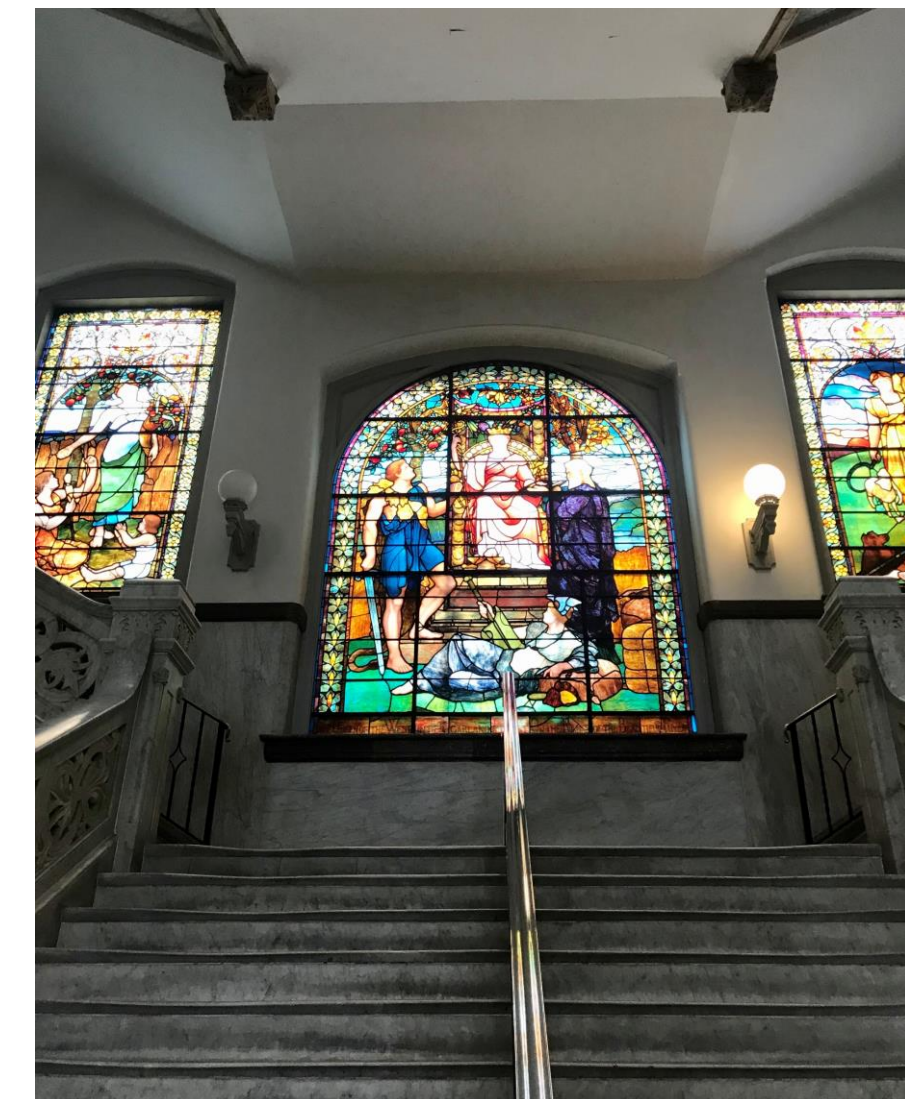
Me at a census kiosk and the Black Lives Matter mural that was painted in front of City Hall the first week I was there

Reflection

- Advice for someone who wants to work for Mayor Cranley is to have another paid job on the side, since it is unpaid, and go after what you want to do. I would also say to be adaptable for whatever comes up because every day is different.
- My plans moving forward are that I will seek another internship next summer. I would like one with more of a sustainability focus. I could see a future where I work in policy, but I probably won't focus on that in my career.
- Since we did this during a pandemic, the experience was different. At this internship, I must honestly say that people did not always wear masks when in the company of other people. I wish that the mask wearing rules had been enforced more. However, having people to talk to was wonderful after months of being stuck at home.



Mayor Cranley and other city council members sitting in the meeting room



The beautiful stained-glass windows at the entrance of City Hall

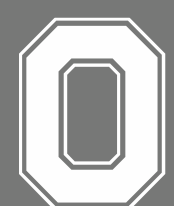
My experience related to my future career aspirations because it helped me to understand more about the process of government and working for people. While there was not a lot of relation to sustainability, a lot of this has to do with coronavirus restrictions. Had it been a different summer, I might have been able to work in the office of environment and sustainability. Despite this, I think that working well with the public and others is valuable experience that will be related to my future ambitions of working in the sustainability sector.

CONCLUSIONS

Overall, I learned a great deal about the workings of government and how change gets made on a day to day basis. It was an honor representing Mayor Cranley's office and getting a look into the process of decision making.



Above: The clock tower of City Hall
Below: One of my last days at work in front of the entrance



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