

## *Md. Carrie Austin (34th), City of Chicago*



Ald. Carrie Austin (34th) was appointed in 1994 to fulfill the unexpired term of her late husband, Lemuel Austin Sr.

After being re-elected to a fourth term in 2007, she was appointed chairman of the Committee on Budget & Government Operations, the second largest committee in City Council. Her husband also held the post.

In addition to heading the budget committee, Austin also serves on other committees, such as Committees, Rules and Ethics; Energy, Environmental Protection and Public Utilities; Finance; Health; Housing and Real Estate; Police and Fire; and Zoning. She was also chair of the council's Black Caucus, where she currently serves as secretary.

Under Austin's leadership, her ward has a new state-of-the-art library; new Mercy Hospital Emergency Room and clinic facilities; new concept school. She also led a 10-year economic development project, a shopping strip mall on 119th Street along Interstate 57, that includes a big box retailer, sit-down restaurant, pet store, fitness center and other retail shops.

Austin's ward will also be home the largest Salvation Army complex in the nation and will host one of the largest Solar-Panel facilities in the country.

Outside of her ward duties as Committeeman, she is also a Central State Committeeman, vice chair of the Cook County Democratic Party of Illinois and was a delegate for President Barack Obama during his presidential campaign.

Austin is the mother of seven children and 25 grandchildren and is known as the "Mayor of the Chicago Football Classic."