



THE MAYOR STRIKES BACK: CHICAGO CITY COUNCIL, 1986

Mayor Harold Washington has promised major reforms in hiring and housing policy for Chicago, but he commands the support of only a minority of the City Council. The majority of the Council has coalesced into an obstinate voting bloc headed by Ed Vrdolyak, determined to oppose nearly all of the Mayor's initiatives. However, the opposition lacks the votes necessary to override the mayoral veto, and the resultant gridlock has ground the government to a halt. Meanwhile, Chicago faces a number of existential challenges, and the old political machine is finding it hard to adjust to the changing times. Aldermen will have to compromise and strike deals in order to keep the city running, all the while watching their backs in the cutthroat world of local politics.

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