



*Founded in 1797 by Lucas Sullivant just west of downtown, Franklinton was the first settlement in Franklin County. Over the centuries, this neighborhood was greatly affected by historic flooding and the construction of the interstate highway system, but recent development efforts in the area are focused on reinventing it as an urban creative district.*

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## **MAYOR ANDREW J. GINTHER'S GOALS AND INITIATIVES FOR 2017**

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The 2017 budget focuses on the achievement of Mayor Ginther's goals and strategic priorities to ensure Columbus remains America's Opportunity City. Those goals and priorities are:

- **Neighborhoods** – engage and promote strong, distinct and vibrant neighborhoods, with particular focus on the greater Linden and Hilltop areas.
  - **Safety** – enhance safety in all Columbus neighborhoods through the effective, efficient and sustainable deployment of resources, and community-driven safety strategies.
  - **Economic Development** – promote economic opportunity and shared prosperity through public investment and policies that help create jobs, increase median wages, improve access to affordable housing, and strengthen neighborhood infrastructure.
  - **Early Childhood Development and Education** – invest in programs and initiatives that reduce infant mortality and prepare children for future success, including high-quality pre-kindergarten, after school care, and summer programs.
  - **Diversity and Inclusion** – promote diversity and inclusion across all city operations, and increase workforce and supplier opportunities for minorities and females.
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## Mayor's Goals

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- **Operational Efficiencies** – complete a comprehensive review of city operations, identify efficiencies and reinvest savings in critical city services and programs.

For each of these goals, the administration has identified key initiatives – referred to as strategic priorities – that will advance the achievement of these goals. These strategic priorities are outlined in the individual department sections that follow. Many of these initiatives cross department lines, requiring departments to work collaboratively to ensure their success.

In addition to initiatives in support of these goal areas, each department has created individual goals and objectives that provide city residents and elected officials information regarding the quality, quantity, and efficiency of the services it delivers.

Some of the city's major innovations and undertakings for 2017 are presented below:

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The city will continue to invest in neighborhoods with the first full year of operation for the newly created **Department of Neighborhoods**. This department will connect city services with citizens and promote strong, healthy and vibrant communities.

Access to city services and information will be provided via the **311 Customer Call Center**.

The five **Neighborhood Pride Centers and the area commissions** will continue to serve as links between city services and Columbus neighborhoods. Pride centers are one-stop-shops for various city services and are dedicated to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of families.

**Enhancing neighborhood pride** and **Partners Achieving Community Transformation (PACT)** programs on the near east side will continue to be a priority.

Columbus Public Health will continue to help **improve the health of families**, prepare for emergencies, and monitor the community's health status.

Columbus Public Health will also assist with the ongoing efforts to combat the opiate epidemic and increase participation in the **Safe Routes to Schools Program** for children.

Continued programming to help make Columbus an **active and vibrant community** includes Get Active Columbus, Healthy Children Healthy Weights, the Institute For Active Living, farmers markets and community gardens, bike and walking paths, walking maps and art walks, the Creating Healthy Communities Network, Women Infant and Children (WIC), and the Healthier Choices Committee.

Funding is included in 2017 to **maintain full-time operating hours at 29 community recreation centers**, five athletic complexes, eight outdoor pools, 26 shelters, and over 8,000 acres of parkland.

The city will continue to **support social services** for residents with the greatest needs by funding local social service agencies, the Community Shelter Board, and the Columbus Neighborhood Health Centers.

To stabilize and maintain neighborhoods with high rates of foreclosed homes and abandoned properties, over \$1 million is being provided to the **weed abatement program** in 2017.

The **Columbus Health Department** provides information to the public on the safety of restaurants, pools, schools, and various venues inspected by the Health Department, will continue in 2017.



**NEIGHBORHOODS**

**Uniformed personnel levels** will remain steady through the funding of both police and fire recruitment classes. These classes, when combined with new police and fire recruitment classes funded in 2016, ensure a sufficient number of recruits will be trained to offset retirements and other separations.

For the Division of Fire, **additional recruitment classes** are likely to increase the number of fire fighters by year-end 2017.

Funding to **help prevent opiate addiction** and personnel to **coordinate prevention programs** will be increased through Columbus Public Health and the new Department of Neighborhoods.

The number of cameras in the **Neighborhood Safety Camera Program**

will increase, and crime statistics on neighborhoods will be analyzed.

Investments in technology and software such as **Body Worn Cameras**, will increase police transparency and support community trust in the actions of officers.

The partnership with the **Community Crime Patrol** will continue in 2017, providing patrol support in various areas of the city.

Funds for the **Community Safety Initiative** remain budgeted in 2017. Working with the neighborhoods, this effort to mitigate criminal activity will be examined to determine the most effective and efficient manner to use police resources to address gun violence, gangs, and drug activity.

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**Job growth opportunities** and **job training efforts** will be proactively pursued by continued investment in Columbus 2020 and other entities to promote the economic development of the city.

Continue relationships with Rev1 Ventures, Next Generation, The Ohio State University, and other similar entities will encourage **entrepreneurship, innovation, and commercialization.**

The city will continue to support **regional economic development strategies** designed to retain and expand companies within advanced logistics, small business, and technology-based industries.

The **newly created Land Redevelopment Division** will seek to repurpose vacant, abandoned, and blighted residential and

commercial structures, and return them to productive community assets.

The city will continue to implement the **citywide connectivity plan**, which includes connection to city facilities for voice, video, and data communications. When complete, the city will have a fiber optic broadband network that enables the city to provide high-speed broadband service to city facilities, promote shared services with regional partners, enhance citizen access to broadband services, and facilitate economic development.

In 2017, the city of Columbus, in collaboration with Capital South and the Columbus Downtown Development Corporation, will continue to develop **projects significantly benefitting east Franklinton and the Whittier peninsula.**

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## Mayor's Goals

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Through the **Early Start Columbus initiative**, the Department of Education will continue to provide funding to expand **access to quality pre-kindergarten** for Columbus children, while simultaneously working with area providers to enhance the quantity of available programming opportunities. The programs are intended to provide high-quality pre-k education for every four-year old in Columbus.

**After-school and summer initiatives** that provide educational opportunities to children in the city will continue in 2017.

In partnership with Columbus City Schools, the city will **increase the presence of police officers and firefighters in schools**, including 19 school resource officers in Columbus high schools and 20 community liaison officers, who deliver public safety programs in the elementary and middle schools.

The Department of Public Service continues to enhance safety and infrastructure near and around schools through the **installation of sidewalks**.

The **Application through Pride, Purpose and Success (APPS) Program** will carry on efforts to engage and mentor at-risk youth and young adults.

**Safe bicycling** will be promoted through the "Share-the-Road" public awareness campaign, which provides tips to motorists and bicyclists on how to safely and legally share the roadways.

The city will continue its efforts to **reduce infant mortality** by following recommendations made by the Greater Columbus Infant Mortality Task Force.



### EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

Columbus Public Health staff will continue to focus efforts on developing and implementing its **infant safe sleep educational campaign** as well as mobilizing and targeting interventions in high-risk neighborhoods.

Funding has been allocated for **FutureReady Columbus**, the public-private partnership created to advance the goal of early education access to Columbus students.

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The **Office of Diversity and Inclusion proposed in 2016** will increase workforce and supplier opportunities for minorities and females.

City departments will continue to monitor and review contracts for **compliance, equity, and inclusion** in the procurement of goods and services.

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion will work with city departments to create a **workforce diversity strategy**, as well as **increase recruitment efforts** for minorities

and females, especially for the public safety forces.



### DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion will commission a **disparity study**, which will analyze the city's utilization of minority and female-owned businesses with respect to the procurement of goods and services, and identify any potential opportunities for improvement.

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion will host a **business conference** in central

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Ohio to promote small, minority, and female business opportunities.

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion will **implement new tracking software** to ensure the proper collection and reporting of procurement data.

City departments will support the **newly established Columbus diversity committee**, which will work to expand relationships with advocacy groups and community organizations committed to a diverse workforce.

The city will carry on its work to address components of its **ten year reform and efficiency action plan** related to employee compensation and benefits. Since a number of these reforms must be achieved through collective bargaining negotiations, the collaborative efforts of the labor relations, employee benefits, and compensation management program areas will be required.

**OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES**

Efforts will be made to continue **implementation of voice over internet protocol (VoIP) telephone systems, voice and video conferencing abilities**, as well as an upgrade of network and telephone equipment.

The city will continue the development and refinement of strategies to **maximize the SMART Cities grant dollars from the U.S.**

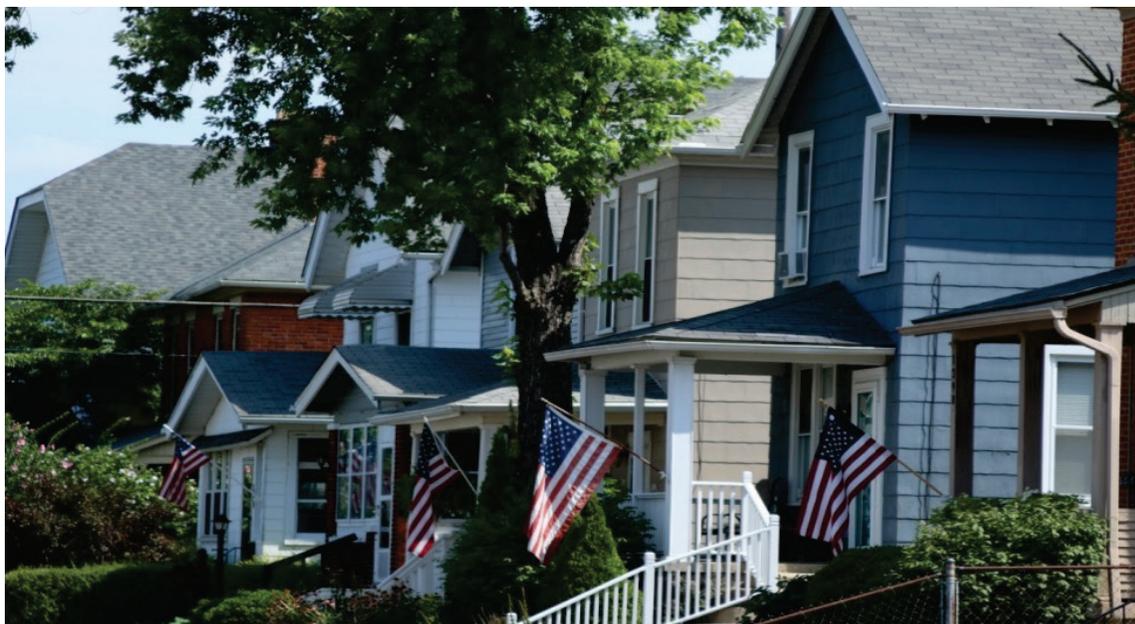
**Department of Transportation and Vulcan, Inc.**

Funds are provided to engage a professional services firm to complete a **comprehensive review of city operations.**

The city will **improve communication and promotion of city services** that are accessible online and through mobile devices.

The Department of Human Resources will work with the Department of Technology to implement a **learning management software program** to reduce manual effort and improve training report functionality.

The Department of Building and Zoning will continue to **streamline the permit and zoning process** to allow for electronic records storage and online plans review.



## **Mayor's Goals**

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