COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For Immediate Release:
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REMEMBERING A COLUMBUS COMMUNITY LEADER: Council President Shannon G. Hardin is sponsoring resolution 0025X-2020 to honor, recognize and celebrate the life of Mark Dempsey. A former City Council Budget Chief, among other public service roles, Mark was the founder and operator of Dempsey’s Food and Spirits downtown, and devoted to the success of Columbus.

EMPOWERING RESIDENTS TO STRENGTHEN NEIGHBORHOODS: Council President Pro Tem Elizabeth Brown, chair of the Finance committee is sponsoring ordinance 3182-2019 to appropriate $3,092,000 of the Community Development Block Grant Fund to various City departments to make important investments in Columbus neighborhoods focusing on expanding housing and economic opportunities for low-and moderate-income families.

PRIORITIZING SHORT-TERM RENTAL SAFETY: Councilmember Rob Dorans is sponsoring ordinance 3221-2019 to require all short-term rental permit applicants to submit to a background check performed by an Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (“BCI”) approved provider prior to receiving a short-term rental permit. This ordinance is an effort to ensure hosts utilizing all short-term rental platforms will be uniformly vetted to ensure the safety of Columbus residents and visitors to our community who utilize these platforms.

FUNDING ESSENTIAL ROADWAY INFRASTRUCTURE WORK: Councilmember Shayla Favor, Chair of the Public Service & Transportation committee is sponsoring ordinance 0110-2020, authorizing the annual appropriation of $8,800,000.00 from the Municipal Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund for 2020 operating expenditures for the Divisions of Infrastructure Management and Traffic Management. Dollars from the fund will be utilized for materials and equipment that will allow for the continuance of services including alley rehabilitation, bridge cleaning & inspection, sidewalk repairs, utility cut restoration, guardrail repair, weed abatement and snow/ice removal services.
MODERNIZING PUBLIC SAFETY CAPABILITIES: Councilmember Mitchell J. Brown, chair of the Public Safety committee is sponsoring resolution 0192-2020 to enter into a $315,000 contract with MCIS Inc. to assess the infrastructure of the City's Neighborhood Safety Cameras and correct all performance issues associated with the project. This will allow our Neighborhood Safety Cameras to act as a force multiplier for the Division of Police and ensure the system remains operational as the Department of Public Safety looks to expand the program later in 2020.

RAISING OPIOID AWARENESS AND FUNDING TREATMENT: Councilmember Priscilla Tyson, chair of the Health and Human Services committee is sponsoring ordinance 0019-2020 to accept a $1,745,070 grant from the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health (ADAMH) Board of Franklin County and to authorize the appropriation of $2,345,070.00, to the Health Department Grants Fund in order to support various Public Health programs including opioid addiction treatment, and wellness and prevention activities in Columbus City Schools.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF DANIEL THOMAS: Councilmember Emmanuel V. Remy is sponsoring resolution 0022X-2020 to commend and thank Daniel J. Thomas for his outstanding service to the City of Columbus. Mr. Thomas served for over 30 years with the Columbus Planning Division, overseeing billions of dollars in investment downtown through his work on the Downtown Commission.

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