

CARES \$ Script
May 13, 2020

Mayor Ginther:

I'm Mayor Andy Ginther.

CM Favor:

And I'm Columbus City Councilmember Shayla Favor.

Mayor Ginther:

We are living in unprecedented times, as we battle the spread of COVID-19 and the economic fall-out from actions we used to protect residents.

CM Favor:

We know our residents are suffering physically, emotionally and economically. Columbus is working hard to address the immediate and long-term needs of our residents.

Mayor Ginther:

We have received a little over \$150 million from the CARES Act, which is federal assistance to ease the burden COVID-19 has

brought on our residents. We are grateful to the Columbus delegation for working hard to get us these much-needed dollars.

We are dividing these funds into three buckets:

- Direct spending for COVID-19 related expenses
- Human services
- Economic impact

CM Favor

On Monday, Columbus City Council will vote on accepting and appropriating the money.

Based on the input we received from the Housing Stabilization Coalition, City Council will also be voting on a Tenant-Based Assistance Program to provide urgent relief to those residents struggling to stay in their homes. This includes funding for:

- Legal Aide to help fight evictions
- Community Mediation Services
- And \$2.6 million for direct rental assistance

Mayor Ginther

I am also happy to announce that I will be forming a Recovery and Resiliency Commission to help us lay out the best plan for Columbus to bounce back from the economic downturn caused

by the pandemic and to be prepared for the next disaster. I am gathering top minds from many sectors to guide this work.

CM Favor

This is just a start, Columbus. More details are coming.

Mayor Ginther

Remember: We are all in this together.