

Mayor Andrew J. Ginther's 2021 Strategic Priorities

THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS

The Equity Agenda

In his 2020 State of the City address, Mayor Ginther laid out his Equity Agenda, an agenda that calls out racism and discrimination where it exists and his plans to address it. The Equity Agenda means:

- reducing infant mortality by making sure Black babies reach their first birthday and beyond;
- ensuring access to high-quality pre-kindergarten, regardless of your zip code;
- working to reduce evictions where we know Black mothers are disproportionately impacted;
- increasing the availability of affordable housing;
- creating more opportunities for Black-owned and women-owned businesses to have equal access to city contracts;
- connecting residents to good paying careers in the trades;
- ensuring our residents feel safe wherever they go.

Everything we do as a city must be done through the lens of equity, and our budget must reflect this, too. As we deal with the economic blow the global pandemic has had on our community, equity has never been more important.

With the Equity Agenda in mind, the Mayor's Strategic Priorities for 2021 are:



Neighborhoods: The city continues to invest in our neighborhoods – focusing on those with higher rates of unemployment, crime and infant mortality: Franklinton, Hilltop, Linden, Near East, Northland, Near South, Southeast and Northeast. Many factors lead to thriving, vibrant neighborhoods including safety, mixed-income housing, and jobs.



Police Reform: We are moving our way of policing from a 20th century model of law enforcement to a 21st century model of community policing. We will focus on proactive police-community interactions and broad-based support to prevent and reduce crime through the Safe Streets Bike Patrol, Neighborhood Crisis Response, CARE Coalition, and programming through Recreation and Parks.



Public Health: COVID-19 made clear to us the importance of strong public health for our community. We must continue to slow the rate of infections and deal with the outcomes of the pandemic that has shone the light on the disparities in public health. In addition, how we address public health also leads to successes in safety and stronger neighborhoods.



Economic Development and Affordable Housing: The city is working to advance economic recovery from COVID-19 and assure that this recovery reaches every corner of our community. Through public investment and policies, we will create jobs, increase wages, improve access to housing residents can afford, and strengthen Columbus neighborhoods.

Mayor's Strategic Priorities



Birth to Five and Education: Every child in every Columbus neighborhood deserves the opportunity to thrive. The city is investing in CelebrateOne to ensure that all babies in Columbus and Franklin County – regardless of race, ZIP code, or family income – are able to celebrate their first birthday and beyond. Early Start Columbus works to ensure all children are able to enter kindergarten with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive.



Diversity and Inclusion: The administration remains committed to fostering a culture of inclusion to ensure its workforce and suppliers reflect the rich diversity of Columbus and that the work of the city is approached through the equity lens. The Columbus Women's Commission is working to advance the economic well-being of women, particularly through its pay equity initiative and eviction prevention, both of which disproportionately impact women of color.



Sustainable Columbus: A healthy environment for every resident is key to ensure Columbus' growth. Through Sustainable Columbus, the city is optimizing internal city operations and working with external stakeholders throughout the community to enhance and promote policies that build stronger, healthier neighborhoods.

