



A photo taken by Bob Wheaton of City Hall in 1954. The photograph shows Broad Street and present-day Marconi Boulevard, overlooking the historic Scioto River.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

Department Description

In 1990, the Community Relations Commission (CRC) was established to help convene and facilitate discussions with civic leaders, business leaders, citizens, and elected officials on issues of ethnic, racial, and cultural diversity. The CRC is committed to creating strong connections between the neighborhoods of Columbus and all of our residents. Through the work of the CRC, our vision of "Building a Community for All" can become a reality.

Department Mission

To provide leadership to the people of Columbus by educating citizens and small businesses about diversity, identifying and resolving community tensions, and eliminating racism/discrimination.

Strategic Priorities for 2016

Neighborhoods

Continue to work with area commissions, civic associations, community organizations and residents on conflict resolution strategies, provide technical training, best practices, and offer additional support to empower individuals to positively impact their community.

Continue implementation of the Mayor's New Americans Initiative, with a focus on integrating immigrant and refugee families into the Columbus community. The initiative encompasses service capacity building, education and awareness presentations, distribution of civic guides, and assistance with citizenship and civic engagement.

Peak Performance

Continue to enhance the staff performance tracking system, on which complaints, neighborhood issues, and events are logged. The database offers a real time status for each charge and complaint initiated in the system.

Economic Development and Technology

Promote and facilitate training and technical assistance on diversity, cultural awareness, civil rights compliance, changing demographics, non-discrimination practices, and cultural sensitivity.

Work in conjunction with the Equal Business Opportunity Commission Office to build economic capacity within the refugee and immigrant communities.

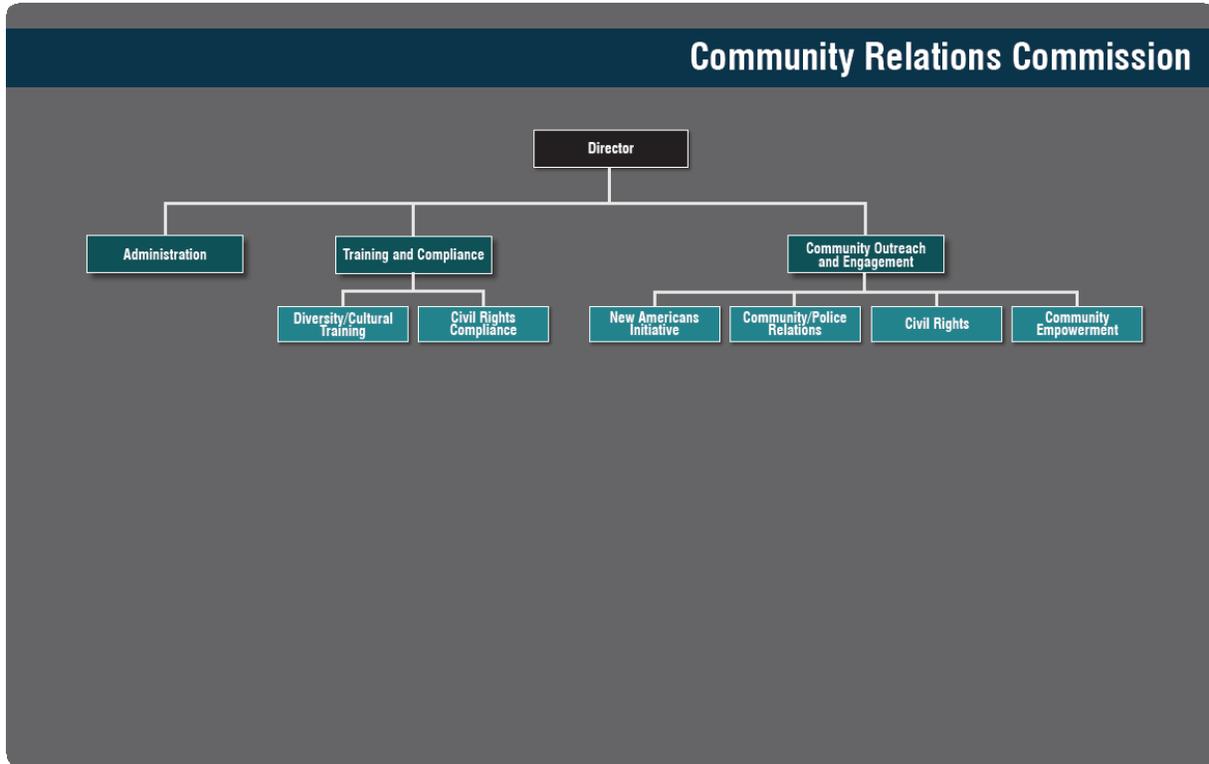
Education

Continue to provide public forums and monthly television programs on relevant topics and key issues facing our community. The live forums will allow residents to have critical community input and interactive participation.

Provide training, upon request, to the corporate and private sectors as well as to community groups and governmental agencies in the following areas: community building, diversity, cultural competency, poverty simulations, and working with immigrant and refugee communities.

Safety

Improve residents' general knowledge and awareness of police and fire operations and procedures through social media, presentations, and training materials in an effort to enhance relationships with the community.



2016 BUDGET NOTES

Funding for the New Americans Initiative continues in 2016 to assist with the assimilation of new Americans arriving in Columbus from other countries. Services will include translation and interpretation services. In addition, CRC will continue to offer “ABCs of CPD” classes that focus on best practices for the interaction between the Columbus Police Department and the local immigrant community.

Funding for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration event is funded at \$12,500. Given the timing of the annual event in January, funding for the event is typically included in the prior fiscal year’s operating budget.

Department Financial Summary by Area of Expense					
Fund	2013 Actual	2014 Actual	2015 Budget	2015 Projected	2016 Proposed
General Fund					
Personnel	\$ 828,492	\$ 838,612	\$ 845,639	\$ 776,490	\$ 866,436
Materials & Supplies	2,511	2,755	2,040	2,040	2,390
Services	384,777	85,503	72,826	74,458	64,793
General Fund Subtotal	1,215,780	926,870	920,505	852,988	933,619
Department Total	\$ 1,215,780	\$ 926,870	\$ 920,505	\$ 852,988	\$ 933,619

Department Personnel Summary					
Fund	FT/PT	2013 Actual	2014 Actual	2015 Budgeted	2016 Budgeted
General Fund					
Community Relations	FT	8	8	8	8
	PT	0	0	0	0
	Total	8	8	8	8

Operating Budget by Program		
Program	2016 Proposed	2016 FTEs
Administration	\$ 708,114	6
Special Events	12,500	0
New Americans Initiative	213,005	2
Department Total	\$ 933,619	8

The programs above and the program descriptions on the following page represent those that will be used in the city's new accounting system which will go live January 1, 2016. As such, no history of financial or personnel data by program is included in this document for prior years.



2016 PROGRAM GUIDE

ADMINISTRATION

To provide leadership to the people of Columbus by educating citizens about cultural diversity, identifying and resolving community tensions, and eliminating racism/discrimination through training and awareness programs.

SPECIAL EVENTS

To promote cultural diversity, awareness and education through CRC sponsored public events.

NEW AMERICANS INITIATIVES

To provide coordination and resources to the city, county, state and community in a culturally sensitive manner, and to address those needs of our growing immigrant and refugee population by maximizing the effect of existing services in the City of Columbus and Franklin County.

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