

**COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

For Immediate Release:  
March 18, 2019

*For More Information:*

Lee Cole, (614) 645-5530

[Web](#) – [Facebook](#) – [Twitter](#) – [Instagram](#)

**CELEBRATING PASTORAL LEADERSHIP IN COLUMBUS:** Council President [Shannon Hardin](#) is presenting resolution 0099X-2019 to acknowledge the accomplishments of Bishop Hezekiah Martin and celebrate his 13th pastoral anniversary. Bishop Martin has served as the Senior Pastor of the Southfield Community Missionary Baptist Church since 2005. Under his leadership, the church experienced an extraordinary growth with over 500 members and 38 new and reactivated ministries. Bishop Martin has been honored as the 2009 Greater Columbus Pastor of the Year, 2011 Pastor of the Year from the Ohio Council of Christian Churches, Overflow Foundation Shepherd of the Year and was consecrated to the Office of Bishop by Bishop J. Delano Ellis. He has also served on the Far South Columbus Area Commission and Marion Franklin Civic Association.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEM TAKES OFFICE HOURS OUTSIDE AND TO THE PLAYGROUND:** President Pro Tem [Elizabeth Brown](#), chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee is [holding](#) community office hours in a new series called "Meet Me at the Playground." The playground-based conversations will give residents the opportunity to discuss their questions and concerns with President Pro Tem Brown in an informal setting. The "Meet Me at the Playground" series will be held at various Columbus parks throughout the City.

**COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE \$2.8 MILLION TO COMBAT HOMELESSNESS:** Councilmember [Priscilla Tyson](#), chair of the Health and Human Services Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0604-2019 to allocate more than \$2.8 million to the Community Shelter Board to support Safety Net. The program effectively and efficiently enables our community to help individuals and families who are homeless or near homelessness resolve their housing crisis. The allocation will fund homeless emergency shelters, homelessness prevention and transition services.



**SHANNON G. HARDIN, PRESIDENT | ELIZABETH C. BROWN, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE  
MITCHELL J. BROWN | ROB DORANS | SHAYLA D. FAVOR | EMMANUEL V. REMY | PRISCILLA R. TYSON**

**CITY CLERK | ANDREA BLEVINS, CMC**

**NEW OUTPATIENT CLINIC COMING TO NORTHEAST COLUMBUS:** Councilmember [Emmanuel Remy](#), chair of the Economic Development Committee is sponsoring ordinance 2174-2018 to enter into a real estate agreement with The Ohio State University for the construction of a new outpatient clinic serving the Northeast Columbus. The property, located at the southeast corner of Hamilton Road and State Route 161 is located in a tax increment financing district. Therefore, City Council must consent to the University's real property tax exemption in lieu of the City's tax increment financing exemption. The University will pay the City an upfront payment of \$1,329,437.

**COUNCIL FUNDS COLUMBUS FIRE EMERGENCY ENTRY PROGRAM:** Councilmember [Mitchell J. Brown](#), chair of the Public Safety Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0661-2019 for the purchase of Knox Boxes. These boxes are self-contained units that retain a master key in each fire emergency vehicle which provides emergency responders with a mechanism to rapidly access locked or restricted areas, thus reducing property damage, liability for lost keys and decreasing on-scene time awaiting the arrival of a key holder to gain entry into the building or home and facilitating a more expedient delivery of service. The Knox Box Rapid Entry product is currently built into and used on the City's fire apparatus. It allows Columbus Fire to continue to enhance the protective health and safety of the public and firefighting personnel and reduce personal property damage.

**WORKING TO INCREASE AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN THE CITY:** Councilmember [Shayla Favor](#), chair of the Housing Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0665-2019 that will provide up to \$1.8 million for affordable housing and enhance homeownership programs in the City. The Affordable Housing Trust for Columbus and Franklin County (Housing Trust) combines public and private funding through a variety of sources to support the development of housing within the City. In 2019, the City will commit its annual contribution of the hotel/motel tax receipts to the Housing Trust at an estimated \$1,886,000 or whatever greater or lesser sum of money may be received through the portion of the Hotel/Motel Excise Tax fund allocated to the Housing Trust. Rental units and homeownership projects will be developed under these programs.

**UPGRADING FIRE HYDRANTS THROUGHOUT THE CITY:** Councilmember Rob Dorans, chair of the Public Utilities Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0446-2019 to authorize more than \$1 million for the 2019 Fire Hydrant Replacement Project. This project will replace damaged fire hydrants in the City. The project provides for rehabilitation of the water distribution system and includes the repair or replacement of existing fire hydrants. The replacement hydrants will provide adequate fire flows and improve water quality throughout the system.

###



**SHANNON G. HARDIN, PRESIDENT | ELIZABETH C. BROWN, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE  
MITCHELL J. BROWN | ROB DORANS | SHAYLA D. FAVOR | EMMANUEL V. REMY | PRISCILLA R. TYSON**

**CITY CLERK | ANDREA BLEVINS, CMC**