

**COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

For Immediate Release:
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For More Information:

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COUNCIL DEDICATES \$5.6 MILLION FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:

Councilmember [Shayla Favor](#), chair of the Housing Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0909-2019 to enter into contract with the Affordable Housing Trust of Columbus and Franklin County to make financial assistance available as grants to homeowners, homebuyers, renters, for-profit and non-profit organizations to increase the local supply of decent, safe and sanitary housing and decrease the number of vacant properties in our neighborhoods.

REVIVING UP ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN COLUMBUS: Council President [Shannon Hardin](#), chair of the Small and Minority Business Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0990-2019 to support the Rev 1 Ventures Entrepreneurial Signature Program. Rev 1 Ventures, formerly known as TechColumbus, is a seed-stage venture development organization that combines investment capital and strategic services to help entrepreneurs build products that people want and companies need. The City will provide \$250,000 to accelerate the creation and growth of new technology companies in Central Ohio.

FUNDING CURRICULUM DESIGN FOR THE HILLTOP EARLY LEARNING CENTER: President Pro Tem [Elizabeth Brown](#), chair of the Education Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0957-2019 to provide a program needs assessment for the new early learning facility in the Hilltop. Children who participate in high-quality early childhood education experiences significantly improve their early literacy, language and math skills. Addressing early childhood learning means bringing awareness and resources to a critical learning stage in childhood development. The new center will also provide critical wraparound services as well as two-generational programs for their families and members of the Hilltop community. Determining what programs and services to offer residents will be important in the development and success of the facility.



**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

SUPPORTING FARMERS MARKETS: Councilmember [Priscilla Tyson](#), chair of the Health and Human Services Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0803-2019 to support the farmers market collaborative, a priority initiative of the Local Food Action Plan. Council will fund \$15,000 to contract with the non-profit Ohio Farmer’s Market Network (OFMN) to hire a Certified Farmers Market Manager. The market manager will provide technical assistance to farmers markets and neighborhood farm stands located in the City of Columbus including but not limited to Linden Farmers Market, Clintonville Farmers Market, Bronzeville Growers Market, Franklin Park Conservatory Farmers Market, Pearl Market, Westgate Farmers Market, North Market Farmers Market, Greater South East Communities United Garden at Gethsemane.

EXPANDING LOCAL ARTS, CULTURE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Councilmember [Emmanuel Remy](#), chair of the Economic Development Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0827-2019 to support the work of the Greater Columbus Sister City International. The program promotes business, government, cultural, educational and environmental exchanges between the Columbus Sister Cities as well as long term economic development. The ten Sister Cities are Accra in Ghana, Ahmedabad in India, Curitiba in Brazil, Dresden in Germany, Genoa in Italy, Hefei in China, Herzliya in Israel, Odense in Denmark, Seville in Spain and Tainan in Taiwan. This May, Greater Columbus Sister City International with the generous support of the Greater Columbus Arts Council, the Columbus Symphony and the Columbus Museum of Art, will feature the Paganini’s Priceless “Il Cannone” violin. The world’s most famous violin and Italian treasure, May 11- 19, 2019. This prized instrument has not been in the United States since 2003 and will be on display at the Columbus Museum of Art. On Thursday, May 15, the Columbus Symphony Concertmaster, Joanna Frankel, will perform on the “Cannone” violin in a public concert dedicated to Paganini at the historic Ohio Theatre.

MAINTAINING SAFE WATER AND SEWER FACILITIES: Councilmember [Rob Dorans](#), chair of Public Utilities Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0887-2019 to renew the agreement with Johnson Controls Fire Protection for the performance of inspections, diagnostic tests and repairs for safety systems at the Jackson Pike and Southerly Wastewater Treatment Plants and the Sewer Maintenance Operations Center. There is a need for inspections and diagnostic tests for all safety devices connected to the Fire Protection Systems. This ordinance provides those resources.

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