

**COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

For Immediate Release:
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For More Information:

Lee Cole, (614) 645-5530

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CELEBRATING ASIAN CULTURE IN COLUMBUS: Council President [Shannon Hardin](#) is presenting resolution 115X-2019 to recognize the Columbus Asian Festival on its 25th year. The Asian Festival highlights the beauty, contributions and diversity of Asian cultures in Central Ohio. Over the past 25 years, the event has grown to include a career fair, Children’s Picnic and its signature event, the Dragon Boat Races. It also features cultural traditions from many of Ohio’s Asian communities, encompassing a performance art series, visual arts, and the opportunity to enjoy, purchase, and cook authentic cuisine.

INVESTING \$1 MILLION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION: President Pro Tem [Elizabeth Brown](#), chair of the Education Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0493-2019 to invest more than \$1 million in the Early Start Columbus program to provide high-quality prekindergarten services throughout the City. Studies have shown children who participate in high-quality prekindergarten experiences significantly improve their early literacy, language, and math skills. Children who come to school ready to learn are more likely to succeed academically and in life. The purpose of Early Start Columbus is to expand high-quality prekindergarten services through partnerships with Columbus City Schools and community-based providers. The Early Start Columbus Program providers have all demonstrated their ability to provide a high-quality prekindergarten education.

TIDYING UP COLUMBUS ONE TRASH RECEPTACLE AT A TIME: Councilmember [Emmanuel Remy](#), chair of the Environment Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0382-2019 for the purchase of refuse collection containers and related parts. To ensure the continued delivery of refuse collection services to all residents and to maintain the efficient delivery of a valuable public service, the City needs to maintain its supply of containers. The Department of Public Service, Division of Refuse Collection, utilizes 96 gallon, 300 gallon, 8 cubic-yard roll-off containers, [litter receptacles and liner](#), and [recycling containers and liners](#).



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SUPPORTING NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP: Councilmember [Rob Dorans](#), chair of the Neighborhoods Committee is sponsoring ordinance 0843-2019 to support and uplift the work of Area Commissions. Historically, the City has provided funds to the Area Commissions who, through their daily operational functions, incur eligible expenses that require cash expenditures during the program year. These funds allow each Area Commission the flexibility and individuality in decision making as they fulfill their functions and responsibilities as outlined in their bylaws and Columbus City Code.

FUNDING ALTERNATE PATHWAYS TO INCARCERATION: Councilmember [Shayla Favor](#), chair of the Criminal Justice and Judiciary Committee is sponsoring ordinances 0581-2019 and 0888-2019 to provide alternatives for incarceration. These ordinances provide funding for assessment /eligibility resources and a work release program. The programs which will be administered by Alvis, Inc. in accordance with the Administrative and Presiding Judge of the Franklin County Municipal Court will provide support for an enhanced probationary service for offenders. This will provide alternatives for incarceration consistent with public safety in the Franklin County Municipal Court.

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