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SUPPORTING LOCAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Council President Shannon Hardin, chair of the Small and Minority Business committee is sponsoring ordinance 1525-2019 to create a Small Business Agenda, Framework, and Multi-Year Action and Implementation Plan that helps local entrepreneurs, small business owners, and Entrepreneur Support Organizations (ESOs) thrive in Columbus. This detailed analysis and action plan is vital to development and sustainability of the City’s small business community.

IMPROVING WORKPLACES FOR EMPLOYEES: Councilmember Rob Dorans is sponsoring ordinance 1507-2019 to authorize and direct the Director of the Department of Human Resources to enter into contract with the Columbus Area Labor-Management Committee for the provision of training and assistance to promote improved labor-management relations. The Columbus Area Labor-Management Committee (CALMC) is a not-for-profit organization that promotes the development of high-performance organizations through joint participation of labor and management. Through cooperative approaches, employers, employees, and unions work together to resolve workplace issues in a proactive manner, make their operations more productive, and enhance safety. A cooperative atmosphere helps workplaces remain competitive, improve opportunities for employment and allow for wage and benefit increases.

SUPPORTING HEALTHY ACTIVE LIVING: Councilmember Priscilla Tyson, chair of the Health and Human Services Committee is presenting resolution 0198X-2019 to Designate June as Men’s Health Month in the City of Columbus and to recognize the work of the National African American Male Wellness Initiative and their efforts to improve men’s health. This year marks the 16th Anniversary of the AAMWI, which has provided thousands of health screenings to men in Central Ohio, and now has wellness events, walks and screenings in cities across the United States.

MAKING TRANSFORMATIVE INVESTMENT IN TEENS: President Pro Tem Elizabeth Brown, chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee is sponsoring ordinance 1726-2019 to pilot the “Earn to Learn”
program, an innovative scholarship program that helps eligible teens and young adults working in the Columbus Recreation and Parks APPS program prepare for college by providing $4,000 in matching funds to those who save $500 of their earnings. The program is an innovative approach to addressing post-secondary affordability and money management in teens and young adults. “Earn to Learn” is in partnership with CME Federal Credit Union and the Ohio CDC and is designed to make a transformative investment for individuals who experience financial barriers to receiving post-secondary training.

COUNCIL TAKES ACTION TO HELP SENIORS STAY IN PLACE: Councilmember Mitchell J. Brown, chair of the Veterans and Senior Affairs committee sponsored ordinances 1331-2019 and 1332-2019 to authorize appropriations totaling $146,974,560 for various programs catering to older adults. Ordinance 1331-2019 authorizes the appropriation of grant funds from the Ohio Department of Aging for the continued operation of the Pre Admission Screening System Providing Options and Resources Today (PASSPORT) Medicaid program for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Ordinance 1332-2019 will authorize the Director of Recreation and Parks to enter into various contracts to provide PASSPORT home care and assisted living services for older adults in Central Ohio for the second year of a two year period beginning July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. PASSPORT provides home care services as an alternative to nursing home admission for Medicaid eligible clients. Services include case management, adult day care, homemaker, meals, personal care, respite, transportation and emergency response. Approximately 7,000 clients are currently being served by the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA) under the PASSPORT program.

INVESTING IN SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE STREETS: Councilmember Shayla Favor, chair of the Public Service and Transportation Committee is sponsoring ordinance 1572-2019, to authorize the Director of Public Service to enter into contract with Shelly & Sands, Inc., for Resurfacing-2019 Project 2. This is the second phase of the 2019 resurfacing project that will include 32 streets and 188 curb ramps. The contract will authorize the expenditure of up to $11,508,177.72 from the Streets and Highways Bond Fund for Resurfacing-2019 Project 2.

PAYING HOMAGE TO THE FABRIC OF THE COLUMBUS MUSIC SCENE: Councilmember Emmanuel V. Remy sponsored a resolution recognizing Mr. Scott Stienecker, Founder and CEO of PromoWest Production for his contributions to building the music scene in the city of Columbus. Through the leadership of Scott Stienecker, PromoWest Productions has become the largest independent concert promoter in the Midwest and host to epic national tours including Farm Aid, Aerosmith, James Brown, Janet Jackson, and The Eagles.

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