

**COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

For Immediate Release:  
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*For More Information:*

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**ADDRESSING COMMUNITY TRAUMA WITH CARE:** [Columbus City Council](#) led by Councilmember [Priscilla Tyson](#), chair of the Health and Human Services Committee is sponsoring ordinance 2962-2018 to appropriate \$75,000.00 to expand the CARE (Community, Action, Resilience and Empowerment) Coalition capacity by hiring an additional social worker. CARE Coalition is a multifaceted, neighborhood rapid response unit designed to take proactive and reactive steps to address traumatic events. The program seeks to build an infrastructure that directly engages residents from neighborhoods experiencing trauma and inequity in order to increase resiliency in individuals and families in Columbus communities. This legislation represents the latest component of Council's 2018 [community-based violence intervention](#) initiative.

**RENEWING BARBERSHOP BOOKS:** Council President [Shannon Hardin](#) and Councilmember [Elizabeth Brown](#) are sponsoring ordinance 2827-2018 to appropriate \$12,325.00 to renew the Barbershop Books program. In 2016, Columbus City Council and Columbus City Schools (CCS) partnered to purchase 150 books and create 10 reading spaces in neighborhood barbershops. In 2017, Council and CCS worked together to add 20 new barbershops to the program, providing those shops with books, training and a child-friendly reading space. Barbershop Books seeks to reduce the achievement gap between boys of color and the community at-large by providing child-friendly reading spaces in neighborhood barbershops. Columbus boasts the largest Barbershop Books program in the United States.

**EMPOWERING SENIORS TO AGE IN PLACE:** Council President Pro Tem [Michael Stinziano](#) is sponsoring an ordinance to appropriate funding to expand the Village network into the Greater Hilltop community. The program works to ensure that older adults are able to age in their homes and remain in their community. As the older adult population grows, there is a need for innovative approaches to service



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delivery. This movement fosters interdependence between neighbors that support aging members, in addition to honoring the contributions of younger members.

**FOSTERING ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE CITY:** Councilmember [Jaiza Page](#), chair of the Economic Development and Small Business Committee is sponsoring ordinance 2860-2018 to enter into a dual-rate Jobs Growth Incentive with Diversity Search Group, LLC for an investment of an estimated \$370,000.00, retaining 4 full-time permanent positions and creating 120 new full-time permanent positions. Headquartered in Columbus, Diversity Search Group is a registered minority vendor for the City of Columbus, a certified minority business enterprise, a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and a woman-owned small business.

**PROVIDING \$1.9 MILLION FOR SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL:** Councilmember [Emmanuel Remy](#), chair of the Public Service and Transportation Committee and Councilmember [Elizabeth Brown](#) are sponsoring several ordinances totaling over \$1.9 million to fund Operation School Sidewalks. The purpose of the program is to provide safer routes and improve pedestrian access to schools. The projects will install residential sidewalks around/near the following schools:

- North - Lincoln Park Elementary School and Livingston Elementary School
- South - West High School, Highland Elementary School and West Broad Elementary School.
- East - Independence High School and Liberty Elementary School

**RECOGNIZING OFFICER EXCELLENCE:** Councilmember [Mitchell J. Brown](#), chair of the Public Safety Committee is presenting resolution 0328X-2018 to recognize Officer Jose James for his dedication to the Hispanic/Latino community. Residents of Columbus have touted Officer James for his ability to overcome the cultural and language challenges of New Americans in order to protect and serve to the best of his ability. Members of the Hispanic/Latino community, including the League of United Latin American Citizens have recognized Officer James as an advocate for their community within the Columbus Division of Police.

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