

**COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

For Immediate Release:
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For More Information:

Lee Cole, (614) 645-5530

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

RADICAL COLLABORATION TO SAVE THE CREW AND DEVELOP COMMUNITY SPORTS PARK:

Council President [Shannon Hardin](#) and Councilmember [Elizabeth Brown](#) chair of the Finance Committee are sponsoring ordinance 3481-2018 to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Franklin County and JHAC Ventures, LLC, to plan and build a new multi-purpose stadium to host the Columbus Crew SC and other sporting, community, entertainment and cultural events and to redevelop the site of MAPFRE Stadium into a community sports park.

The sports park will serve as the permanent practice facility and training complex for Columbus Crew SC and will provide access to outdoor athletic fields, indoor turf fields, basketball courts, and programming space, as well as additional green space for more than 200,000 residents living within 3 miles of the facility. The MOU includes a plan for a new commercial and residential development west of the Arena District anchored by the new 20,000-seat stadium. The development will include 885 residential units, 20% of which will be designated as affordable units, and 270,000 square feet of commercial and office space to accommodate up to 1,300 employees. No City tax dollars will be used toward the construction of the new Crew Stadium.

\$1 MILLION FOR PRENATAL TRAVEL ASSISTANCE: Councilmember [Emmanuel Remy](#), chair of the Public Service and Transportation Committee is sponsoring ordinance 3390-2018 to authorize the expenditure of \$1 million from the Smart City USDOT Grant for the Prenatal Trip Assistance program to provide transportation services to pregnant women. From October 1,



**SHANNON G. HARDIN, PRESIDENT | MICHAEL STINZIANO, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
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2016, to September 30, 2017, the infant mortality rate in Franklin County was 8.6 deaths per 1,000 live births. The Prenatal Trip Assistance project recognizes transportation as a piece of a puzzle that can influence the rates of infant mortality, a recognized problem prevalent in the Franklin County region.

SUPPORTING CREATIVITY AND STABILITY IN THE ARTS: Council President [Shannon Hardin](#), chair of the Rules and Reference Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 3378-2018 to amend Columbus City Code with the addition of Chapter 375 – the Admissions Tax. The Creation, Innovation and Inclusion fund will be supported by an admissions tax on certain arts and entertainment events in the City. The \$6 million dollars generated by this fee will improve arts inclusion and access for families, and nearly double grants for small and independent artists.

STRENGTHENING COMMITMENT TO LIVING-WAGE JOB CREATION: Councilmember [Elizabeth Brown](#) is sponsoring ordinance 3381-2018 is sponsoring ordinance 3381-2018 to enact Section 4565.11 of the Columbus City Codes to create a new \$15 minimum hourly wage for any job receiving an incentive through the City of Columbus. The City of Columbus utilizes tax incentives to encourage job creation within the City among new and existing companies, and its use shapes the job opportunities available to residents. The codification of a \$15 per hour minimum wage requirement raises the standard for the City’s job creation programs in order to better connect residents to jobs that pay a living wage that can support a family.

KEEPING COLUMBUS’ WATER SYSTEM SAFE: President Pro Tem [Michael Stinziano](#), chair of the Public Utilities Committee is sponsoring an ordinance to continue the Department’s work with the Water Research Foundation program which grants access to a global network of experts and utility-based research. This collaboration has resulted in substantial costs savings by applying research-based best practices and continues Council’s commitment to providing safe, effective and efficient public utility services for residents.



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UPDATING FORENSIC LAB DNA EQUIPMENT: Councilmember [Mitchell Brown](#), chair of the Public Safety Committee is sponsoring ordinance 3375-2018 to authorize the acceptance of a \$430,000 grant award from the National Institute of Justice Forensic DNA Laboratory Efficiency Improvement and Capacity Enhancement Program. The grant will allow the Columbus Division of Police to update equipment to increase capacity and aid in processing, recording, screening and analysis of forensic DNA and/or DNA database samples.

FUNDING NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION: Councilmember [Jaiza Page](#), chair Housing Committee is sponsoring ordinance 3410-2018 to authorize the expenditure of \$120,000.00 to not-for-profit organizations in order to promote workforce development in the construction trades for youth or restored citizens and transform vacant and blighted structures or lots into productive parcels under the Learning Skills to Lift Neighborhoods grant program.

RAISING THE ROOF ON ADDICTION RECOVERY: Councilmember [Priscilla Tyson](#), chair of the Health and Human Services Committee and President Pro Tem [Michael Stinziano](#) are sponsoring ordinance 3432-2018 to approve the roof replacement of Desert Island Club, a nonprofit 501c3. The Desert Island Club has provided recovery addiction services for residents since 1983. They are home to 12 different, 12 step meetings that convene 7 days a week. The organization serves about 30,000 individuals a year with free meetings and events that support sober living. In addition to meetings, sober parties are offered to celebrate holidays, special occasions such as Ohio State football games; and weekly potlucks are held for members and non-members to have sober, safe fellowship opportunities.

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