**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **

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Contact:

Dan Williamson, Mayor’s Office, 645-5300
Cynthia Rickman, Development Department, 645-8795
John Ivanic, City Council, 645-6798
Web – Facebook – Twitter

**More Housing and Jobs Coming to Arena District**

Mayor Michael B. Coleman today announced that the City of Columbus will partner with three local development groups on the redevelopment of the western end of Nationwide Boulevard. Mayor Coleman will ask City Council to approve economic development agreements on Monday, December 8, with Nationwide Realty Investors, Borror Properties and Ruscilli Construction, and Connect Realty and Schiff Capital.

*“These partnerships represent everything that Columbus is about,”* Mayor Coleman said. *“They are bold. They are creative. They preserve our history while forging our future. They create jobs and build a neighborhood.”*

Nationwide Realty Investors and the city will agree to partner on building the infrastructure to develop the former Jaeger manufacturing site. Nationwide Realty plans to develop the 25-acre Jaeger site as part of the continued expansion of the Arena District.

Connect Realty and Schiff Capital will purchase the Municipal Light Plant complex at 555 W. Nationwide

Boulevard from the City and redevelop it into a combination of office and specialty retail uses. Connect will restore the three main buildings into a mixed-use development that will include space for approximately 150 new jobs and unique retail and hospitality. The Connect Realty and Schiff Capital development is projected to open in late 2017.

Borror Properties and Ruscilli Construction will purchase approximately five acres of land that currently house the city’s Central Outpost at 640 W Nationwide Boulevard for a new office and residential development. The office portion will include a new home office headquarters for both Borror Properties and Ruscilli Construction, bringing more than 150 jobs Downtown. The project also will provide additional space for new office tenants and a multifamily residential component.

*“Columbus City Council supports adaptive reuses that strengthen and enliven the city’s urban core,”* said Councilmember Michelle M. Mills, chair of the Development Committee. *“The redevelopment of the western end of Nationwide Boulevard will create more employment, residential, and retail opportunities in Columbus.”*

The city will also partner with all three development groups to construct a park to service the neighborhood on a portion of the Central Outpost property.

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