

City of Columbus



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Andrea Blevins, City Clerk
Columbus, Ohio

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2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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Mayor's Office
2015 Annual Report

Mayor's Office 2015 Annual Report

The Office of Mayor Michael B. Coleman wrapped up 16 years of service and continued working to make Columbus the best city in the nation to live, to work and to raise a family.

Fiscal Responsibility

Columbus again received AAA credit ratings with a stable outlook from all three major rating agencies.

Mayor Coleman presented his 16th, and final, balanced General Fund budget. The proposal reflected the City's commitment to the safety of the residents and the delivery of basic neighborhood services. The proposed 2016 budget was \$834.8 million, 2.6% above the 2015 budget.

Columbus allocated over \$2 million to the rainy day fund, taking it up to \$69.8 million and ahead of schedule to reach the goal of \$75 million by the end of 2018. Columbus saved \$187 million over the last 16 years by spending less money than budgeted.

Almost \$260 million has been saved since Columbus implemented changes recommended by the Economic Advisory Committee.

While the number of residents Columbus serves has grown, the City is providing more services with fewer employees and a smaller government.

Safety

Columbus is the safest major city in Ohio. Violent crime has gone down by 30%, even as the population has increased by over 13%.

During the last 16 years, Public Safety has graduated 594 firefighters and 1168 police officers. This is about 38% of the current firefighter force and about 61% the current police force

The proposed 2016 budget allocated \$557.1 million to support the Department of Public Safety. In 2016, there will be one class of 40 firefighters and two classes of 35 police officers.

The proposed 2016 budget also allocated \$500,000 toward implementing body cameras for police officers. This technology will be used to improve safety and serve as a tool to protect both police officers and the citizens they encounter.

Education

Mayor Coleman continued to demonstrate his commitment to education by allocating \$6.3 million for the Department of Education, including additional funding for FutureReady.

The funds will be used to leverage additional dollars from federal, state, and private sector sources to increase access to quality early childhood education, expand career readiness, and improve our schools.

Getting Green

The City's comprehensive recycling collection program continued. Since its start in June 2012, Columbus has recycled over 100,000 tons and saved \$5.6 million in tipping fees.

Columbus launched the [Branch Out Columbus](#) initiative, whose goal is to plant 300,000 trees in Columbus by the year 2020, raising our tree canopy from 22% to 27%.

Blueprint Columbus was approved by the Ohio EPA in December 2015. It's an innovative sustainability program that focuses on a new approach to our sanitary sewer overflow process and building parks and green space in our neighborhoods.

The Scioto Greenways project was completed. Beginning with the removal of the Main Street dam in November 2013, the Scioto River has been restored to its natural channel, and through this process, the community has gained 33 acres of downtown greenspace and 1.5 miles of multi-use path connections. The City also added approximately 800 new trees and 75,000 plants.

Housing

During Mayor Coleman's 16 years, Columbus demolished 870 vacant or blighted properties and constructed or rehabilitated over 17,000 homes.

The Affordable Housing Trust over its existence has committed to and funded loans of over \$134 million resulting in the creation or preservation of 9306 housing units.

Health

Mayor Coleman allocated \$280,000 to combat the heroin epidemic. Heroin use, specifically black tar heroin use, is on the verge of becoming a crisis here in Columbus.

Columbus and many other cities in Ohio have been plagued by an opiate epidemic with devastating, often deadly consequences.

Heroin deaths accounted for 1,177 unintentional overdose deaths in Ohio last year, according to the state Health Department. That was up from 983 in 2013.

This money will be used to support a comprehensive Harm Reduction Program that will address heroin and opiate use before it becomes a public health crisis.

National Recognition

- Intelligent Community Forum named Columbus the 2015 Intelligent Community of the Year
- Forbes named Columbus the 11th best place for businesses and careers
- Columbus was listed in Thumbtack's Top 10 Cities for Black-Owned Small Businesses in America
- Money ranked Columbus the third best city for millennials
- Smart Asset named Columbus the eighth best American city to work in tech
- GO Banking Rates ranked Columbus #7 in the up-and-coming U.S. housing markets
- CNN Money ranked Columbus as the #1 city where wages are growing fastest
- U.S. Census Bureau named Columbus the 13th fastest growing city in the U.S.
- Gallup named Columbus the 13th best large metro area for job creation

City Treasurer 2015 Annual Report

**DEPARTMENT OF CITY TREASURER
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2015**

The authority and responsibilities of the City Treasurer are set forth in Sections 88 through 96 of the Charter of the City of Columbus. Section 88 specifically states that "the treasurer shall be the custodian of all money belonging to the city and, subject to the provision of any specific trust, of all money held in trust by it."

Specific regulations concerning the deposit of public funds are contained in Chapter 321 of the Columbus City Code, while rules regarding the investment of public funds are covered under Chapter 325.

The average daily balance of investments in 2015 was \$1,596,087,743.96 with cash-basis investment earnings of \$10,949,577.63 for a yield of 0.686 percent. The investment balance at year end was \$1,604,491,615.95. Schedules of all investment activity for the year, and the portfolio composition as of December 31, 2015 are presented later in this report.

Columbus City Treasurer's Office
Balance Sheet as of 12/31/15

ASSETS:

Cash in Banks	\$	3,539,751.22
Cash-in-Payroll Account		227,298.59
Cash-on-Hand		134,280.69
Receivable Items		11,168.15
Due to Others		327,932.30
Returned Checks		24,744.49
Treasury Investments		1,604,491,615.95
Total Assets	\$	1,608,756,791.39

LIABILITIES:

Auditor's Warrants Payable	\$	16,632,863.81
Payroll Checks Issued		227,298.59
Advance Receipts		20,733,596.28
Total Liabilities		37,593,758.68
City Fund Balance		1,571,163,032.71
Total Fund Balances		1,571,163,032.71
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$	1,608,756,791.39

Columbus City Treasurer Investment Earnings-Cash Basis 1987-2015

Year	Earnings	Year	Earnings
1987	\$28,388,518.85	2005	\$18,399,091.67
1988	\$22,060,069.73	2006	\$40,592,503.35
1989	\$25,936,181.69	2007	\$54,766,454.31
1990	\$25,462,770.85	2008	\$52,196,589.58
1991	\$21,972,435.31	2009	\$18,000,322.49
1992	\$14,630,762.90	2010	\$10,794,788.99
1993	\$14,078,568.03	2011	\$9,003,587.24
1994	\$14,407,539.40	2012	\$6,686,401.60
1995	\$21,167,207.89	2013	\$5,833,439.72
1996	\$24,328,056.80	2014	\$8,484,921.04
1997	\$26,925,897.15	2015	\$10,949,577.63
1998	\$29,599,645.25		
1999	\$31,525,495.24		
2000	\$36,981,982.63		
2001	\$40,300,193.79		
2002	\$26,027,402.32		
2003	\$16,136,402.90		
2004	\$10,336,025.03		

CITY OF COLUMBUS
 DECEMBER 31, 2015
 INVESTMENTS BY TYPE

	Amount	Average Yield	% of Portfolio
FFCB Coupon Notes	174,455,851.14	0.86%	10.87%
FFCB Coupon Notes – Callable	0.00	0.00%	0.00%
	-----		-----
Federal Farm Credit Bank	174,455,851.14		10.87%
FHLB Coupon Notes	567,810,348.40	0.86%	35.38%
FHLB Coupon Notes-Callable	55,794,516.66	1.03%	3.48%
FHLB Discount Notes	0.00	0.00%	0.00%
	-----		-----
Federal Home Loan Bank	623,604,865.06		38.86%
FHLMC Coupon Notes	209,702,771.61	0.73%	13.07%
FHLMC Coupon Notes-Callable	152,992,825.73	0.96%	9.54%
FHLMC Discount Notes	0.00	0.00%	0.00%
	-----		-----
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	362,695,597.34		22.61%
FNMA Coupon Notes	204,043,776.39	0.83%	12.72%
FNMA Coupon Notes-Callable	42,472,051.09	1.08%	2.64%
	-----		-----
Federal National Mortgage Association	246,515,827.48		15.36%
US Treasury Notes	20,048,590.68	0.38%	1.25%
Star Ohio	71,697,332.97	0.30%	4.47%
JP Morgan Chase Bank	103,462,143.48	0.06%	6.45%
Huntington Premier Money Market	2,011,407.80	0.01%	0.13%
Total Investments	1,604,491,615.95	0.77%	100.00%

City Attorney 2015 Annual Report

2015 Annual Report: The Office of Columbus City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr.

In 2015, City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr. continued to focus on problem hotels and large multi-unit apartment complexes. As a result of working with community leaders and members of the Columbus Division of Police, the office helped craft legislation sponsored by Columbus City Council Member Zach Klein that requires hotels to file annual operating permits with the city.

Assistant City Attorney Bill Sperlazza also testified before the Ohio Senate Civil Justice Committee about S.B. 201, a bill that would add "acts of violence" to the state's nuisance abatement code.

Several staff members received honors and accolades in 2015. Anne Murray, Director of the Domestic Violence and Stalking Unit, received the Peacemaker Award along with Columbus Police Division Domestic Violence Squad Sgt. Rick Ketcham for their work in making Franklin County the first in Ohio to implement the Lethality Assessment Program to help predict and prevent intimate partner homicides.

Chief City Prosecutor Lara Baker-Morrish was appointed to the Advisory Committee of the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission and also was installed as President of the Columbus Bar Association Alliance.

Vanessa Perkins, a Domestic Violence Legal Assistant, received the Special Courage Model of Justice Award from the Justice League of Ohio.

Assistant City Attorney Bill Sperlazza won a City of Columbus Award of Excellence after being nominated by Columbus Police Division Sgt. Steve Livingston for his work on the team that shut down several of Columbus' most crime-infested hotels.

Chief of Staff Bill Hedrick was nominated for the Award for Professional Innovation in Victim Services by the Office for Victims of Crime, a division within The United States Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.

Assistant City Attorney Natalia Harris departed the office after 11 years of service to become Chief Counsel of the Prosecutor Division in the Cincinnati Solicitor's Office.

Litigation Section Chief Glenn Redick retired in January of 2015 after serving 28 years in the office.

Administration Section | Bill R. Hedrick, Chief of Staff

The Administration Section performs the human resources, fiscal, technology and facilities management functions for the office. Legislation previously enacted by City Council provides an authorized strength of 164 full-time employees and 49 part time employees (including 14 full-time and two part-time employees for the Division of Real Estate). However, due to internal fiscal policy decisions, the budgeted number of full-time employees in 2015 was 122 while the number of part-time employees was 38. Of the full-time employees, 62 were attorneys. Most employees' salaries were covered by the city's general fund, while others were paid through either internal service funds, fees, or grants secured by the office. The total budget from all funds was \$12,878,457 (\$11,685,213 from the General Fund and \$857,568 from the Land Acquisition Fund, as well as \$295,676 from grants and \$40,000 from fees).

General Counsel Section | Joshua T. Cox, Chief Counsel & Section Chief

The General Counsel Section serves as primary legal counsel to city officials on issues relating to city services, legislation, contracts, zoning and other vital issues associated with the day-to-day operations of city government. In addition, this section assists in the legal review and practical implementation of various development projects that foster the growth of our community. The section also works to keep our environment clean by assisting various city divisions in complying with state and federal environmental laws.

Last year, the General Counsel Section reviewed 1,778 contracts for city departments, involving expenditures of just under \$1.3 billion. The section also reviewed 1,961 ordinances. General Counsel provided legal assistance on dozens of noteworthy projects and issues during 2015 as well.

Labor and Employment Section | Pamela J. Gordon, Section Chief

The Labor and Employment Section is responsible for handling all labor and employment-related litigation involving the city and renders legal advice to city officials and managers on labor and employment matters involving the city's six collective bargaining units and its full-time and part-time employees.

On a daily basis, the attorneys field questions on various employment laws such as the Family and Medical Leave Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Title VII, and Ohio Civil Rights Act. The attorneys handle cases in various forums, including arbitration, federal court (at both the trial and appellate levels), state court (at both the trial and appellate levels), the U.S. Department of Labor, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, the State Employee Relations Board, the Industrial Commission of Ohio, the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, the Unemployment Compensation Review Commission, the Columbus Community Relations Commission and the Columbus Civil Service Commission.

The section started 2015 with 89 cases pending in various forums and currently has 110 pending cases.

Over the course of the year, 65 cases were resolved. Forty-seven of those cases were successfully resolved in the city's favor (this includes 25 cases that were voluntarily dismissed or withdrawn) as follows:

Six arbitrations; nine cases before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and Ohio Civil Service Commission; and 32 court and administrative cases (Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, U.S. District Court, 10th District Court of Appeals, 6th Circuit Court of Appeals, State Employment Relations Board, and the Civil Service Commission).

In the remaining 18 cases, 13 were settled (including seven arbitrations and six filings in the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas—all of these cases were settlements of Bureau of Workers' Compensation appeals), three arbitrations resulted in split decisions and one arbitration was resolved against the city. One threatened litigation matter resulted in litigation and is currently pending.

Additionally, over the course of the year, the Labor and Employment attorneys fielded approximately 210 calls/requests for legal advice and assistance unrelated to pending cases.

Litigation Section | Tim Mangan, Section Chief

The Litigation Section defends the city and its employees in all types of civil litigation. While litigation occurs in other sections of the office, the Litigation Section's caseload principally deals with claims against the city and its employees that seek monetary damages based on allegations of personal injury or property damage or violation of constitutional rights.

In 2015, the City Attorney's Litigation Section was assigned to handle 58 new cases that were filed against the city, seeking a total of more than \$17.7 million in damages.

A total of 53 cases were closed this year, which resulted in the city paying \$337,500 out of a total of \$176,528,838 in damages being sought. A total of 85 cases are still active.

Additionally, the Litigation Section worked with city departments and their employees through training, advice, and counsel to improve city practices and policies so that future lawsuits may be successfully defended or prevented.

Claims Division | Nancy L. Weidman, Division Chief

The Claims Section is responsible for the collection of debt owed to the city of Columbus and for investigating and paying—or denying—claims for personal injury and property damage made against the city. The combination of both in-house and outside agency delinquent tax collections bring in millions to the City each year. As of December 31, 2015, a total of \$5,918,742.60 was brought into the General Fund through these collection efforts. This represents a 36 percent increase over collections in 2014.

Both in-house and outside agency tax collections have doubled since City Attorney Pfeiffer took office in 2003.

The Claims Section filed 3,246 tax cases and collected \$2,962,243.49 in delinquent city income taxes in-house. Outside collection agencies brought in another \$2,956,499.11. The section also collected \$147,196.46 on behalf of non-tax clients through both court actions and direct phone contact. Those clients include the Departments of Utilities, Transportation, Public Service, Licensing, and Recreation and Parks. A total of 101 cases were filed to collect non-tax debt.

There were 87 new claims over the \$2,500 threshold filed through December 31, 2015. Forty-four have been settled and 33 were denied. No claims became litigation matters this year. The remaining cases are in progress. In total, \$120,009.40 was paid (against \$385,092.26 in demands) on behalf of our clients to settle damage or personal injury claims filed against them through December 31, 2015.

Police Legal Advisor's Office | Jeffrey S. Furbee, Section Chief

The Police Legal Advisor Section provides comprehensive legal advice specifically to the Columbus Division of Police on policies, procedures, and labor issues. Attorneys in this section also deliver around the clock "real time" advice to police personnel. In addition, this section tracks lawsuits, case reviews, and property damage/medical claims against the Division.

- Training: (300+ hours in 2015) The demands made of the legal advisor section by police for legal training has continually increased over the past several years -- and more legal training was provided this past year than ever before. Our advisors literally spent hundreds of hours providing legal training to current Division of Police Officers, as well as police recruits.

On-going in-service legal training of all current officers was conducted twice a week, every week, throughout the spring. The training took place on all shifts and afforded face-to-face contact with every Columbus Police Officer.

The advisors also provided legal training to two police recruit class this year. This too involved hundreds of hours of preparation and presentation. The legal advisors also provided bureau-specific training wherein they went to individual police sections, such as Narcotics and SWAT, and conducted training on their specific issues.

- Real-time Legal Advice: The police legal advisors receive approximately 30-40 inquiries from officers every day. These inquiries vary from brief, easily answered questions to complex legal questions. Inquiries are made via email, phone, and in-person. Several hours a day are spent giving legal advice to the Division of Police.
- Legal Updates and Roll Calls: (10+ written updates/and over 60 roll-calls attended in 2015). The police legal advisors distribute legal updates to all Division of Police Officers for up-to-date legal information on a monthly basis. They also attended nearly every Division of Police Patrol Roll to take questions specific to those officers and the parts of town where they patrol.
- Videos: (Several videos produced 2015). This year our office continued providing short video presentations. These videos were required viewing for all officers. The videos are typically 2-4 minutes in length covering important legal topics which the officers are able to watch from their substations.
- Meetings: This is hard to quantify because the Police Legal Advisors are regularly asked to attend meetings where legal issues might arise, but they easily attended over 100 meetings in 2015.
- Review of Division Directives/SOPS: Division Policies are regularly reviewed for legality. This, too, is difficult to quantify, but the advisors spent at least 80 hours reviewing/rewriting such policies.

Prosecutor Unit | Lara N. Baker, Chief Prosecutor & Bill Hedrick, Chief of Staff

Located at 375 South High Street in the Franklin County Courthouse complex, the Prosecutor Division is responsible for the prosecution of misdemeanor offenses on behalf of citizens of the City of Columbus and the State of Ohio. From case initiation in the Prosecution Resources Unit to defense of successful prosecutions in the

Appellate Unit, the Prosecutor Division provides a wide array of services attendant to the resolution of criminal allegations and complaints. In addition to the services provided to the citizens of the City of Columbus and the unincorporated areas of Franklin County, this division also represented, by contractual agreement, a number of Franklin County municipalities.

The Prosecutor Unit—consisting of 17 courtroom prosecutors, four domestic violence prosecutors, two arraignment team prosecutors, two environmental prosecutors, an administrative assistant, and four legal support staff—prosecuted 117,430 misdemeanor cases initiated in the Franklin County Municipal Court. Courtroom prosecutors worked dockets with an average caseload of 4448 criminal/traffic cases per month.

Prosecutions initiate in the four arraignment courtrooms of the Franklin County Municipal Court. In 2015, 31 percent of all OVI cases were resolved in the arraignment courtrooms, primarily by Assistant City Prosecutor Michael Allbritain, with an 82 percent conviction rate; meaning that 1,064 OVI cases did not have to be assigned to a courtroom docket. First offender Petty Theft cases are likewise resolved at an early stage through the Theft Diversion program. In 2015, 875 individuals qualified for the Theft Diversion program.

This unit is also responsible for processing requests for production of public records in the Prosecutor Division, and for processing municipality billing for prosecution services. In 2015, 107 requests for public records were responded to in a timely fashion. The division also generated \$35,630 in revenue by providing legal services to area municipalities.

Legal Assistant Unit | Jackie Keller, Coordinator

This nine full-time and one part-time person staff processes and maintains prosecutor case files for the 15 judges of the Municipal Court. In 2015, 47,021 cases were processed to closure and stored. Overall, the unit initiated approximately 128,032 cases (6,004 of which were OVIs).

Prosecution Resources Unit | Robert Tobias, Director

The Prosecution Resources Unit provides a variety of services to citizens seeking to resolve conflict that may rise to the level of a misdemeanor criminal violation. Consisting of the Intake Section, the Mediation Program, and the Check Resolution Program, this unit is involved in day-to-day interaction with crime victims.

- **Intake Section** – *Jessica Cain, Lead Legal Intake Counselor*
Offering citizens the opportunity to have allegations of misdemeanor criminal violations reviewed by a prosecutor, the Intake Section processed 2,980 citizen complaints, resulting in the filing of 416 criminal charges. With a staff of approximately 18 intake officers, the Intake Section averaged 248 criminal complaints a month.
- **PRU Mediation Program** – *Catherine Graham/Claire Lysaght, Coordinator*
This program operated in the evenings with volunteer mediators from the Moritz College of Law, Capital University Law School, Nationwide Insurance and members of the alternative dispute resolution community in an effort to resolve disputes without resorting to criminal prosecution. The program scheduled 300 mediation hearings, resulting in 149 hearings conducted. Of these 149 mediation hearings, 59 percent resolved with an agreement.
- **Check Resolution Program** – *Barbara Williams, Coordinator*
Seeking to resolve disputes where checks are dishonored without resorting to the filing of criminal charges, this program scheduled a total of 5,359 first and second hearings resulting in the recovery of \$235,210.76 on dishonored checks. This process diverted 1,558 check writers from the criminal justice system.

Domestic Violence and Stalking Unit | Anne Murray, Director

This unit consists of a director, a chief advocate, two lead advocates, 12 full-time victim advocates, including a Spanish speaking advocate, two support staff members, a cyber-crime investigator, a stalking specialist, a grant-funded stalking advocate, and liaisons from CHOICES, Franklin County Children Services, and Capital University

Law School's Family Advocacy Clinic. Additionally, the unit houses the four specialized domestic violence prosecutors.

According to data compiled internally, the Domestic Violence & Stalking Unit provided victim advocacy services for victims of domestic violence in 3,106 cases. The DV prosecutors resolved 3,899 cases.

Appellate Unit | Melanie Tobias, Director

The Appellate Unit consists of a director, an assistant city prosecutor, a paralegal, and a staff of approximately seven law clerks. The Appellate Unit completed 25 briefs – 20 filed in the 10th District Court of Appeals, and three briefs contra and two briefs in support of certiorari filed in the Ohio Supreme Court. Twenty oral arguments were completed. Overall, the unit was successful in 85 percent of its cases.

The Appellate Unit also was responsible for the filing of over 500 objections to applications for record sealing as well as responding to over 1,300 defense motions.

- **Traffic Diversion Program**

The Traffic Diversion program is a coordinated effort of the PRU and the Appellate Unit designed to allow for a diversion alternative for traffic offenders. Of the 1,405 participants in 2015, 1,152 (80 percent) successfully completed the requirements allowing for case resolution at the arraignment stage. Of the 1,288 minor-misdemeanor-only participants, 1,092 (85 percent) successfully completed.

Real Estate Division | Dave Peterson, Chief Real Estate Attorney

The Real Estate Division is responsible for the acquisition of all real property interests needed by city departments, the provision of legal assistance with regard to all real estate matters—including the sale and leasing of property—utility easements, right-of-way dedications, and matters related to real estate property taxes. The Real Estate Division also provides legal and negotiating advice for a number of major projects, including acquisition of the real property needed for the future 111 Front Street parking garage and the former State Detention Facility on Home Road for a possible future water treatment plant, and the future Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging offices on South High Street.

In 2015, the Real Estate Division provided legal and negotiating services involving 70 ordinances and resolutions, for projects comprising more than 161 land acquisitions, which will contribute to Columbus' development.

Major projects include continued acquisition on the Fairwood Avenue Sidewalks, American Addition Phases 2 & 3, Joyce Avenue Phase 3, Gender Road at Refugee Road, and Georgesville Road at Holt Road Projects and commencing an additional 225 acquisitions involving the Hamilton Road Phase B, Moler Road Sidewalks, Parsons Avenue Sidewalks, Cleveland Avenue and Schrock Road, COTA Sidewalks Phase 2, COTA BRT, Portage Grove Sewer, and Alumcreek Avenue Refugee to Route 104 Projects.

The Real Estate Division also handled deed and instrument preparation and other assistance related to 220 easement or property donations, 550 deeds for the city's land bank, and the preparation and submittal of 30 real estate tax exemption applications for new construction and newly acquired properties.

The Real Estate Division also participates in and provides guidance to the Columbus Land Review Commission including the preparation and valuation of city property being considered by the Commission for sale and the preparation of promissory notes and mortgages in connection with the Department of Public Utilities' Septic Tank Elimination Program.

Zone Initiative Unit | Assistant City Attorney Steve Dunbar

Working closely with the Division of Police, Code Enforcement, Columbus Public Health, Sanitation and community organizations, this unit focuses on the elimination of public nuisances that blight the city's neighborhoods. Whether it is abandoned and deteriorating houses, open dumping, street prostitution, boot joints, excessive noise or trash and debris, this unit seeks to eliminate these problems.

To that end, the five attorneys assigned to this unit were visible in the community attending meetings and making presentations on how citizens and city government can work together to improve the quality of life in Columbus's neighborhoods.

Using the statutory jurisdiction of the Environmental Division of the Franklin County Municipal Court, this unit will file complaints for injunctive relief, seeking equitable solutions to persistent problems.

City Attorney Pfeiffer and members of the Zone Initiative continued to make a concerted effort to bring neighborhood blight and the vacant and abandoned property epidemic to the forefront of public discourse in 2015.

City Auditor 2015 Annual Report

City Auditor
2015 Annual Report

Submitted herewith is the annual report of the Department of City Auditor, City of Columbus, Ohio, in accordance with Section 231 of the Columbus City Charter for calendar year 2015.

The Auditor is the City's chief accounting officer. He keeps in accurate, systematized detail, a record of the receipts, disbursements, assets and liabilities of the City and presents such facts periodically to officials and to the public in summaries and analytical schedules as prescribed in the City's charter.

An independent audit is conducted of the City and its chief accounting officer. This audit for 2015 is now in progress. An annual financial report of the total City for the year ended December 31, 2015 containing the independent auditor's report will be issued in the near future.

The following report simply details certain data applicable to the Department of City Auditor, Accounting and Reporting Division 22-01. A separate report will be filed with the Council by the Department of City Auditor, Division of Income Tax 22-02.

Very truly yours,

Hugh J. Dorrian
City Auditor

HJD/rlm
Enclosure

City of Columbus, Ohio
 Department of City Auditor
 Division 22-01
 Years ending December 31

Total Expenditures		<u>2015</u>
Personal service	\$	3,024,749
Materials and supplies		34,456
Services		709,766
Other disbursements		-
Capital outlay		-
		<u><u>\$ 3,768,971</u></u>

Hotel-Motel Tax Collections

Chapter 371 of the City Code provides for the collection of an excise tax on transient lodging accommodations. The City Auditor administers the collection of the tax. The following table shows the gross receipts of the last ten years.

(in thousands)			
2015	\$20,497	2010	13,781
2014	18,507	2009	12,727
2013	17,511	2008	14,679
2012	16,455	2007	14,883
2011	15,027	2006	13,948

Miscellaneous Data

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Vouchers paid	102,158	100,495	96,488	94,597	91,772
Receiving warrants written	10,880	9,387	9,730	9,472	9,625
Disbursing warrants written	77,975	75,812	73,742	71,051	69,259
Funds and sub-funds accounted for:					
General	8	8	8	8	6
Special Revenue	55	53	53	52	51
Trust & Agency	24	24	23	22	22
Debt Service	25	24	24	23	21
Internal Service	7	7	7	7	7
Capital Projects	61	61	60	58	57
Enterprise	43	43	42	42	41
	<u>223</u>	<u>220</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>205</u>
Total	<u><u>223</u></u>	<u><u>220</u></u>	<u><u>217</u></u>	<u><u>212</u></u>	<u><u>205</u></u>

Income Tax 2015 Annual Report

**2015 ANNUAL REPORT
COLUMBUS INCOME TAX DIVISION**

The Columbus Income Tax Division is charged with the collection, audit, and enforcement of the 2.5% municipal income tax pursuant to Chapter 361 of the Columbus City Codes.

Financial data contained in this report reflects actual collections, refunds, etc., as recorded by the Income Tax Division of the City of Columbus. Such data may vary from that contained in the Auditor's official fund accounting records due to the normal time requirements for processing documents prior to being recorded with the City Auditor. A reconciliation of the data appears below.

The following is a report of Columbus income tax collections for 2015:

	(in thousands)
Gross collections in 2015 via Income Tax Division	\$828,868
Transfers to other cities	(1,840)
Collections in transit 12/31/2014	5,387
Collections in transit 12/31/2015	(8,145)
Refunds paid in 2015	<u>(21,278)</u>
Income tax revenues (budgetary basis)	<u>\$ 802,992</u>

The funds collected from the tax are allocated for municipal purposes as set forth in Chapter 361.36 of Columbus City Codes.

The Columbus Income Tax ordinance provides that 25% of the total collection of income tax to be set aside for the payment of principal and interest on bonds and notes issued by the City. The remainder provides the General Fund with its major source of revenue.

Withholding accounts contributed to	82.2% of the total tax revenue for Columbus in 2015.
Business accounts contributed to	12.3% of the total tax revenue for Columbus in 2015.
Individual accounts contributed to	5.5% of the total tax revenue for Columbus in 2015.

By contract, this Division administered the collection of the municipal income tax for the following municipalities in 2015: Brice, Canal Winchester, Groveport, Harrisburg, Marble Cliff, and Obetz as well as the Northern Pickaway County Joint Economic Development District (JEDD), the Prairie Obetz Joint Economic Development Zone (JEDZ) and the Prairie Township Joint Economic Development District (JEDD). For the administrative service of collecting the income taxes for these entities, the Columbus General Fund received collection fees based on a formula incorporating the gross income tax collections for each of these political subdivisions of the State of Ohio. Fees collected during 2015 for administering the income tax collections of the administered political subdivisions of the State of Ohio amounted to \$537,092.00. This is to be compared to \$423,866.16 in fees collected in 2014. The collection fees charged to the suburbs are based on a four-part formula that is specifically designed to recover only the cost of administering the tax. The Northern Pickaway County JEDD, the Prairie Obetz JEDZ and the Prairie Township JEDD have separate formulae for calculating the cost of administering their respective tax.

The total expenditure to operate the Income Tax Division during 2015 was \$9,441,286.64. This includes salaries, fringes, income tax forms, new equipment, data processing charges and miscellaneous supplies including postage. This represents administrative service for income tax collection for Columbus and six satellite communities as well as three JEDD/JEDZ entities. The authorized strength of the Income Tax Division in 2015 was 82 full-time and 1 part-time employees.

City Income Tax receipts processed in 2015 through the Delinquent Section amounted to \$6,964,610.54. This amount included delinquent tax, penalty and interest charges for Columbus and all administered cities. This figure represents delinquent collections through the Tax Division, the City Attorney's Office and the outside collection agencies.

During 2015, the Income Tax Division referred 3,157 cases to the City Attorney's office for filing civil suits on delinquent assessments totaling \$9,274,252.00.

On December 31, 2015 the Division had 1,271,379 accounts on its tax files. This total is comprised of 1,152,914

"Direct" and 118,465 "Withholding" accounts.

	ACTIVE	INACTIVE	
CORPORATE	15,961	67,499	
FIDUCIARY	240	2,288	
INDIVIDUAL	53,490	952,224	
PARTNERSHIP	0	4,826	Required to file as entities.
ENTITY/PRTSHIP	8,728	23,802	
COURTESY	-0-	23,856	
TOTAL – DIRECT	78,419	1,074,495	TOTAL 1,152,914
WITHHOLDING	24,080	94,385	TOTAL 118,465
GRAND TOTAL	102,499	1,168,880	TOTAL 1,271,379

The total number of accounts on the tax database increased by 20,972 in 2015.

Civil Service Commission 2015 Annual Report

Civil Service Commission
2015 Annual Report

Mission

The Civil Service Commission is committed to providing a quality work force for the City of Columbus based upon merit system principles. Through our collective knowledge and experience, we strive for efficiency and consistency in the application of the Commission's Rules and Policies. We are dedicated to improving the services we provide by anticipating employment trends, by listening to the needs of the operating agencies, and by responding accordingly.

The Columbus Covenant identifies peak performance as one of its seven goals. "Peak Performance" is defined as investing in all City employees and developing systems that support a high-performing City government. The Civil Service Commission is on the front line, playing an integral role in achieving this goal.

The Civil Service Commission is the primary contact point for candidates seeking employment with the City of Columbus. The Commission acts as the gateway, assessing applicant qualifications for 94 percent of all City jobs. Through the online Employment Center and applicant testing, the Commission ensures the individuals who ultimately comprise the City's workforce of approximately 7800 full-time employees, are of the highest caliber capable of providing exceptional service to the citizens of Columbus.

Together with its Civil Service Commissioners, the Civil Service Commission is responsible for upholding and administering all mandated provisions of the Columbus City Charter, including, but not limited to, the administration of the City's class plan, verifying personnel actions and certifying City payroll, and serving as a neutral hearing body for employee appeals regarding suspension or discharge actions by an appointing authority. As required by the Ohio Revised Code, the Commission also provides class plan maintenance, personnel actions oversight, and appeals hearing services for all classified employees of the Columbus City Schools.

Class Plan Maintenance

The Civil Service Commission is responsible for maintaining the City's class plan, which provides a structural framework for all personnel actions and provides the basis for an equitable compensation plan. Regular class plan reviews and revisions are necessary to ensure each class specification continues to meet the ever-changing needs of each department. For this reason, an important Commission objective is to review every classification at least once every five years. At the close of 2015, 100 percent of the City's class plan was up-to-date. As part of this objective, staff completed a total of 147 class reviews with recommendations approved by the Commission in 2015.

The 147 reviews resulted in:

- 2 actions to create new classification specifications
- 1 action to abolish classifications
- 62 actions to review without change
- 82 actions to revise and/or retitle

Additionally, 76 positions were randomly reviewed to determine if their duties matched their current classification; 100 percent of these positions were properly classified.

The Commission also conducts job audits upon request by an individual, a department, or a union. The purpose of these audits is to ensure that City employees are performing the duties for which they were hired, qualified, and being properly compensated. During 2015, Commission staff completed a total of seven position audits; two of those positions were identified as misclassified. Misclassifications are typically resolved through reassignment of duties to the position which are appropriate for the current class, or reallocation of the position to a different class for which the current duties best fit. Additionally, 17 sworn positions were reviewed for possible civilianization consideration.

Applicant and Employee Services

In order to ensure that specific positions under each of the job classes in the class plan can be filled in a timely fashion with qualified employees, the City's Charter has designated primarily two classification types: noncompetitive and competitive. Noncompetitive classes are either non-skilled positions or those with qualifications that have a license or other condition that must be met by an external source, such as a Registered

Nurse. Competitive classes are those which require a broader set of minimum qualifications and a variety of job-specific knowledge, skills, and abilities, such as an Office Assistant.

To identify an initial pool of candidates for City employment, the Commission uses its online Employment Center database. The Center includes a wealth of information about jobs with the City, including: current vacancies, exam opportunities, job descriptions, qualification requirements, and salary information. Additionally, the Center houses an automated job interest database and the convenience of submitting applications on-line. This service can be utilized via the Commission's website from any computer with web access or at kiosks located at the Commission's downtown offices at 77 N. Front Street on floors one and three. A potential applicant can indicate interest in multiple jobs and will automatically receive an email notice to apply when the City is taking applications for a given job.

The Applicant and Employee Services Unit is responsible for the recruitment and application process for the City's noncompetitive, provisional, and unclassified jobs.

In 2015, the Applicant and Employee Services Unit:

- 27,542 Job Interest Cards were submitted electronically for all City jobs
- posted 481 noncompetitive/provisional/unclassified job vacancies
- received 16,016 online applications for noncompetitive/provisional/unclassified job postings

Non-Uniformed Testing

The Commission's Non-Uniformed Testing Unit administers exams to further determine candidates' suitability for the work which will be performed in all tested (competitive and qualifying noncompetitive) job classes, other than the Police and Fire sworn jobs.

In 2015, the Non-Uniformed Testing Unit:

- conducted 134 exam recruitments (74 regular recruitments and 60 Rule VI)
- received 9,568 exam applications (9,488 online; 80 paper)
- tested 3,383 candidates (3,216 regular and 167 Rule VI)

The Commission is committed to having a current exam in place and ready to be administered for each of the 256 non-uniformed competitive and qualifying noncompetitive classifications in the City and to establishing an eligible list within 60 days from the date a test is requested by a department. The exams are directly based on the work performed by current employees in the job class and are comprised of varying combinations of components, called subtests. The most common subtests include: computer skills, information ordering, logic and reasoning, mathematics, memorization, name/number comparison, oral communication, oral comprehension, problem sensitivity, reading maps/plans, written communication, reading comprehension, and written expression.

To keep the tests current, our goal is to complete a full job analysis and to review, revise, and/or develop the exam for 51 non-uniformed competitive and qualifying noncompetitive classifications each year. In 2015, we completed 52 job analysis projects, 52 test development projects, and averaged 50 days to create eligible lists.

Commission Rules also allow latitude for City departments to hire personnel provisionally when there is a critical need to immediately fill a position but there is no eligible list in place. In order to ensure fair access to City jobs, the Commission is committed to maintaining a provisional employee count below two percent. The City began 2015 with three full-time provisional employees and ended the year with no full-time provisional employees, resulting in a provisional appointment rate of zero percent.

Uniformed Testing

The Commission's Uniformed Testing Unit administers exams for 10 job classes that make up the Public Safety services for the City of Columbus. The majority of the examinations are comprised of at least three components, including a paper test, an oral response, and a physical assessment or tactical exercise. The Uniformed Testing Unit works closely with the IAFF and the FOP to ensure fairness and consistency in the testing processes of promotional exams. The following exams were administered in 2014 and/or 2015 with eligible lists established from exams in 2015: Entry-level Police Officer, Fire Lieutenant, Fire Captain, Fire Battalion Chief, Fire Deputy Chief, and Police Sergeant. Each of these exams were developed, administered, and validated by Civil Service Commission staff. Fire Assistant Chief eligible lists were created twice in 2015. Per Commission Rule, minimum qualifications were

reviewed and a training and experience evaluation method derived scores for each candidate. The established rankings were based upon seniority points.

Entry-Level Testing

The Entry-level Police Officer exam consists of four phases. In 2015, there were 2,890 individuals who applied to take the Police Officer exam. In all, 455 candidates were placed on the Police Officer eligible list.

Promotional Testing

	Number of Exam Phases	Number of Applicants	Number of Candidates Tested	Number of Candidates Added to Eligible List
Police Sergeant	4	151	109	72
Fire Lieutenant	3	215	134	61
Fire Captain	3	86	64	30
Fire Battalion Chief	3	14	13	11
Fire Deputy Chief	3	8	5	5
Fire Assistant Chief	1	3	3	3
Fire Assistant Chief	1	3	3	3

Payroll and Personnel Actions

Another City Charter responsibility conferred upon the Commission is the monitoring and certification of the entire bi-weekly City payroll. This means that no City employee can be paid until the Commission certifies that the individual was hired and continues to be employed in accordance with the City Charter and Civil Service Commission Rules. The monitoring process includes verifying personnel transactions such as appointments, changes in pay, leaves of absences, and political activity. During 2015, the Commission processed an average of 546 transactions per pay period before the payroll was certified correct to the City Auditor and paychecks issued.

Columbus City Schools

The Ohio Revised Code provides that the Commission also oversees approximately 2,427 employees in the classified service of the Columbus Board of Education. In 2015, there were 158 classification specifications in the Columbus City Schools’ class plan. During the year, the Commission approved recommendations for the revisions to four classification specifications, a revision and retitle to one classification specification, one recommendation to abolish a classification specification, and two creations of job classes.

In 2015, Columbus City Schools utilized the Commission’s downtown test center for (15) days of testing, and the Hearing Room for (9) days of trial board hearings.

Civil Service Commissioners

The City Charter provides that the Mayor, with the approval of City Council, appoint the three Civil Service Commissioners:

Grady L Pettigrew, Jr., President	Term expires January 31, 2018
Jeffrey D. Porter, Member	Resigned as of November 6, 2015
Delena Edwards, Member	Term expired January 31, 2014

The Commissioners have the responsibility to establish the Rules that govern the selection, classification, promotion, and termination of the classified employees of the City of Columbus and the Columbus City Schools. During 2015, the Commissioners ruled on applicant appeals, heard employee disciplinary appeals, amended Commission Rules and Regulations, and responded to personnel requests from department directors, elected City officials, and the school board.

Throughout 2015, the Commission:

- held 12 regular meetings
- conducted 1 full Commission hearing
- held 9 trial board disciplinary appeal hearings

The Commission's 2015 docket included:

- 16 disciplinary appeals filed by employees/unions
- 8 non-disciplinary appeals filed by employees/unions
- 5 appeals withdrawn
- 6 disciplinary appeal rulings
- 15 non-disciplinary appeal rulings
- 39 requests for background administrative reviews by applicants
- 33 background administrative review rulings

Expenditures

Summary - Expenditures by Unit	2014	2015
Administration	\$1,953,946	\$1,971,766
Classification & Testing-Sworn Employees	1,245,828	1,112,668
Classification & Testing-Civilian Employees	519,835	580,168
Total Expenditures	\$3,719,609	\$3,664,602

Community Relations Commission 2015 Annual Report

Community Relations Commission
2015 Annual Report
 Building a Community for All

Derek H. Anderson, Executive Director
 Toya J. Johnson, Deputy Director
 Guadalupe A. Velasquez, Assistant Director
 Mary A. Howard, Chair

INTRODUCTION

The Community Relations Commission for the City of Columbus is pleased to submit this document as the 2015 Annual Department Report to Mayor Andrew J. Ginther, Columbus City Council and the residents of the City of Columbus. During the calendar year 2015, the Commission performed its primary role of discrimination complaint investigation and facilitating the Civil Rights code compliance, diversity and inclusion training, coordination of the New Americans Initiative, and sponsoring various forums and events that showcase and include our diverse residential population. Additionally, the Commission worked with residents to help to identify and resolve community tensions.

The New Americans Initiative (NAI) provided opportunities for Limited English Proficient residents to receive meaningful access to existing programming and advocated for needed programs and policies that affect our city’s newest immigrant and refugee population. Additionally the NAI has created the framework to position Columbus as one of the Nation’s Welcoming Cities.

This report is divided into eight sections. Each section provides a description of activities performed by either an individual staff member or the staff as a whole of the Community Relations Commission.

I. DISCRIMINATION INVESTIGATIONS AND CASE SUMMARIES 2015

The Community Relations Commission is charged with the enforcement of Columbus City Code Title 23, Chapter 2331 regarding prohibition of discrimination in the **areas** of employment, housing, public accommodations, interfering with civil rights, racial profiling and ethnic intimidation. The twelve “protected classes” or **basis** under the City Code are race, sex (including pregnancy), color, religion, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, gender identity or expression, familial status, active military status, age and disability. Although five protected classes were added in 2008, no remedies for the discrimination were approved and the charges remain criminal offenses.

Below is a summary of the complaints management of the CRC for 2015 from approximately 115 complaints. Please note that complaint summary category does not include counts for all calls and inquiries. Not included are calls and inquiries that do not reach the required minimum level of proof (probable cause); or are out of the Columbus jurisdiction, anonymous callers, complaints beyond six months acceptance “window”, etc. Finally, all complaints begin with a status of “informal.”

Total Formal Complaints	7
Total Informal Complaints	115
Closed Complaints	7
Complaints prosecuted	0

Case Categories (based on informal and formal cases that make the Director’s bi-monthly report)

AREA	
Employment	13
Ethnic Intimidation	00
Housing	16*
Interfering civil rights	03
Public Accommodation	01
Racial Profiling	03
Retaliation	01

BASIS

Active Military	00
Age	03
Ancestry	03
Color	04
Disability	03
Familial Status	01
Gender Identity or expression	02
National Origin	14*
Race	04
Religion	14*
Sex	04
Sexual Orientation	01

* There were complaints filed by Somali Muslim residents from the Capital Park Apartments. Fourteen complaints were filed. These complaints were mostly about repairs, and repair costs, with a few residents angry that workmen entered their apartments to do repairs with “dirty” shoes on. Culturally they expect the workers to remove shoes. As a group, the complaints were referred to the New American Outreach Coordinator for mediation. CRC worked with city agencies to lead and facilitate communications to address and resolve a severe overcrowded housing issue that prevented mass evictions at Capital Park.

Successes

- Achieved greater partnership with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission (OCRC) on discrimination complaints. Case information is readily shared, after processing the complaint.
- Improved our relationship with the Safety Director’s office and enhanced police complaint investigation sharing with Internal Affairs Bureau of the Columbus Police Division.
- Utilized social media, i.e. Facebook and Twitter to share information about diversity and discrimination.
- Conducted a successful mediation, with party agreement, of a yearlong complaint investigation for a local nursing college. Administered diversity awareness training, including an overview of the City of Columbus civil rights laws.
- Developed a “Protected Class Advisory Group” that meets quarterly to increase awareness of civil rights protections that includes immigrants and refugees. The Protected Class Advisory Group conducted 3 trainings on Muslim Community, Culture & Religion, Immigrants & Refugees, and Marriage Equality.
- Worked with the City of Columbus Equal Employment staff to develop resolutions to five complaints by City of Columbus employees, one was a former employee. Because of the success of the collaboration two complaints were withdrawn.
- Launched the Mediation Sub-committee of the Commission to review appeals and mediation of complaints.

II. DIVERSITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The goal of the Community Relations Commission diversity education and training program is to foster awareness, appreciation and accommodation of non-majority groups among the residents and businesses within Columbus. The education and training program works to enhance community and professional relations so that residents and employers gain a better understanding of different cultures, faiths and lifestyles. Organizations and agencies that participated in CRC diversity education training in 2015 included:

Columbus Citywide Human Resources Training	Ohio Department of Health
Columbus Citywide New Employee Orientation	Ohio Dominican University
Columbus Department of Public Utilities	Ohio Welcoming Cities and Counties
Columbus Division of Fire Recruits	Otterbein University
Columbus Division of Police Human Resources	Society of Government Meeting Professionals
Columbus Division of Police Recruits	The Ohio State University
Columbus Frontline Supervisors	

Successes

- The CRC reached a variety of departments within City government and created a consistent approach to managing our inclusion message to current and potential employees. This effort was well received and considered beneficial. Significant cost savings for the City were achieved by utilizing CRC for training rather than outsourcing this service to other providers. Fee for service

trainings also increased and were identified as a positive revenue stream for our department. By working extensively with our neighboring communities throughout Central Ohio, we increase the prosperity and safety of residents and visitors to Columbus. An example of this is evident in the work of our Protected Class Advisory Group who conducted 3 trainings on Muslim Community, Culture & Religion, Immigrants & Refugees, and Marriage Equality.

III. COMMUNITY RELATIONS and NEW AMERICANS COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Outreach to and engagement of residents and employers throughout the City of Columbus is a critical aspect of the work of the Community Relations Commission. Highlights from the department's engagement efforts in 2015 are below. Additionally opportunities for 2016 are included.

Successes

- Coordination and production of quarterly public educational forums, specifically CRC sponsored Lunch and Learn events, in partnership with other government agencies and public serving organizations. Programs were broadcast on CTV and filmed in front of live audiences. These events have steadily increased in attendance.
- Three Community Outreach and Engagement meetings were held throughout the City of Columbus, in conjunction with City Council, to identify issues, educate, empower and strengthen Columbus's diverse communities. The event topics included Community Gardens (April), Senior Outlook (July), and Courts to the Community (September).
- Created and established the Faith Leaders Action Group (FLAG) – subcommittee of the Mayor's Interfaith Religious Advisory Council (MIRAC). FLAG is teams of trained faith leaders who partner with communities in time of civil unrest. FLAG was reported on by The Dispatch (September 2015)
- Protected Class Advisory Group conducted 3 trainings on Muslim Community, Culture & Religion, Immigrants & Refugees, and Marriage Equality.
- Participation in and/or coordination assistance for events & festivals, including: Community Festival, Hot Times Festival, International Festival, Neighborhood Gardens, National Night Out events, Festival Latino, Federation of African Organizations, Eritrean festival, Veteran's Stand Down, Neighborhood Best Practices Conference, Senior Fair, Food Truck Festival, and many other neighborhood based festivals and community events.
- Coordination of Martin Luther King Day March and Celebration at the King Lincoln Complex and the Lincoln Theater.
- Coordination of 2015 National Welcome Week and Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrations.
- CRC worked with city agencies to lead and facilitate communications to address and resolve a severe overcrowded housing issue that prevented mass evictions at Capital Park.
- Collaborated with Columbus State Community College on outreach for its Courageous Conversations Series.
- Guided, connected and assisted individuals and community groups with nonviolence grants.
- Conducted and led an Otterbein Urban Appalachian class and tour
- Developed, led and planned the Franklinton Arts District Strategic Community Plan.
- Organized and facilitated Mayor's 30th Annual Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony where more than 350 students, city employees, dignitaries and community members attended to hear survivor testimony.
- Hosted a panel discussion on "Dispelling Myths and Misperceptions about Refugees".

IV. MAYOR'S NEW AMERICANS INITIATIVE

The City of Columbus' New American Initiative was created to give all immigrant and refugees living in Columbus access to city services and programs to help improve their lives. This initiative gives equal opportunity to all refugees and immigrants and allows them to become responsible, productive residents of Columbus. The growing New American populations contribute to the cultural richness enhances the economic growth and development of the city. In order to ensure a smooth transition and seamless integration process, a comprehensive strategy of resource distribution was established. The New American's Initiative is recognized locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.

Successes in 2015

- Coordinated a collaborative effort regarding overcrowding issue at Capital Park Apartments resulting in a successful outcome of zero displacement of more than 100 families.
- Work with resettlement agencies to provide civic engagement classes to prepare immigrant and refugees on becoming US Citizen's.
- Researched, managed, and published the Impact of Refugees in Central Ohio Report.
- Conducted bimonthly meetings with refugee resettlement agencies to address issues affecting quality of life for newly arrived population to minimize barriers.
- Worked closely with organizations that serve the immigrant refugee population to connect them with resources, provide capacity building and advise on navigating through city, state and federation programs.
- Continued to spearhead Welcome Week Initiative for the City of Columbus along with Welcoming America and expanded partnerships to include the Partnership for a New American Economy, The White House Task Force on New Americans, and USCIS to promote citizenship ceremonies.
- Facilitated over 20 educational programs and presentations for internal and external agencies including; Recreation and Parks, City of Columbus, US Department of Homeland Security, and Ohio Department of Administrative Services.
- Assisted with the Suicide Prevention Campaign for Bhutanese Nepal community.
- Convened Ohio Welcoming Initiatives to create a statewide initiative.
- Facilitated in the creation of WE Global Network a Midwest regional collaborative that focusses on welcoming, integration, economic development and retention of talent in the area of highly skilled immigrants and international student. .
- Hosted a series of educational forums regarding the international refugee crisis to inform local community about religious values, dispel myths, and educated leaders about refugee resettlement process.
- Conducted third annual Global Tour for the United Way of Central Ohio.
- Hosted, quarterly meetings with FBI and local law enforcement.
- Represented the New Americans Initiative for the City of Columbus twelve cities in Norway, Denmark on best practices of community engagement, strategies of addressing community tension and integration.

CRC AWARENESS AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

CRC program highlights for 2015 include:

- Annual Civil Rights Historic Heritage Tour
- Columbus Regional Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratorical Contest
- Monthly CTV Programs: Community Tapestry and Global Columbus
- Holocaust Remembrance program – Yom HaShoah
- Community Relations Commissioners service project The Largest Table at St. John's Church
- 50th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act Commemoration & History of the Community Relations Commission program
- Martin Luther King, Jr. March and Celebration
- Somali Graduation & Scholarship Program
- "Building Intergenerational Communities" Lunch and Learn series
- Outreach & Engagement Community Meetings
- Urban Appalachian Tour
- Annual New Americans Global Community Tour for the United Way Neighbor Leadership Academy
- Neighborhood Best Practices Conference
- Welcome Week Community Dialogue and Engagement Initiative

KEY OBJECTIVES FOR 2016

- Monitor community and human rights issues
- Develop a City/County multi-sector strategic plan of welcoming and integration by establishing a core welcoming committee and subcommittees on workforce development, economic development, language access, retention and small business development.
- Transform workplaces and neighborhoods by educating citizens and businesses about the Civil Rights ordinance and diverse populations in order to prevent abuse of the City Code through legislation
- Showcase and support our city’s diversity through the production of meaningful programs and events
- Sustain community empowerment and engagement with various communities by building better relationships within and between communities and City government through the use of internal department coordination, employer training and better police-community relations.

CRC COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

COMMISSIONERS

Mary Howard, Chair
Eric Brown, Vice Chair
Julia Arbini-Carbonell
Rabbi Harold Berman
Elfi Di Bella
Merissa Bowers
Chris Cozad
Karan Froom
Ex-Officio
Nick Bankston
Robert “Bob” Stewart

Fran Frazier
Dr. J. S. Jindal
Adhanet Kifle
Rebecca Nelson
Alyson Poirier
Nancy Pyon
Erin Upchurch
TyKiah Wright

CRC STAFF

Derek H. Anderson, Executive Director
Toya J. Johnson, Deputy Director
Guadalupe Velasquez, Assistant Director
Gale Gray
Nelson Hewitt
Miranda Pierce
Abdikhayr Soofe

Finance and Management

2015 Annual Report

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE & MANAGEMENT 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

The Department of Finance and Management is organized into two operational groups: Financial Management and Asset Management. Financial Management oversees city-wide budget development, monitoring and control, and purchasing. Asset Management coordinates and manages city owned real estate and facilities, manages construction projects, and maintains vehicles for most city agencies. The Director's Office provides overall coordination and policy direction for the Department's fiscal, human resource, and legislative processing functions, and oversees the city's print shop and mailroom functions.

Within the Financial Management Group is the Division of Financial Management, which includes the Budget, Grants Management, Purchasing, Debt Management, and Construction Pre-Qualification Offices. Within the Asset Management Group are the Divisions of Facilities Management and Fleet Management, and the Construction Management and Real Estate Management Offices.

By group, then by division or office, 2015 highlights are as follows:

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT GROUP

Budget Management

The primary function of the Budget Management Office is to provide fiscal analyses in the preparation and monitoring of the annual operating budget so that city leaders have useful, accurate, and timely financial information from which to make informed decisions.

The 2015 budget was adopted by City Council on February 9, 2015 and was signed by the Mayor on February 10, 2015. Throughout the course of the year, the office monitored and reported on the financial status of all city departments by conducting quarterly and year-end financial reviews. Staff compiled and documented financial data and issued various financial summary reports. A year-end report was also issued, comparing overall 2015 revenues and expenditures to 2014 levels, as well as to the projections in the third quarter financial report. Ten-year pro forma operating statements for the general fund and for most major operating funds were updated, as was the city's general fund three-year financial plan (2015-2017). A monthly general fund revenue report was compiled that compared revenues to the previous year's receipts, as well as to the City Auditor's estimate. Additionally, throughout the year Budget Management staff reviewed operating and capital expenditures to ensure budget compliance.

The office completed various special projects in partnership with other city agencies, including, among others, the following: served on the city's teams for the labor negotiations with the IAFF; produced and compiled forecasts for the 2016 County Tax Budget; continued work on the design and implementation of the new accounting, budgeting and procurement system (hereon referred to as DAX); represented the Department on the CelebrateOne committee (infant mortality task force); ; and participated in committees on the use of body worn cameras in the City's Police Division and consolidation of the Public Safety communication center. Of note, staff in this section applied for and received \$2,000 scholarships (each) from the State of Ohio's Local Government Innovation Fund to complete a LeanOhio Boot Camp in January 2015. A total of 23 employees across the Department of Finance and Management attended this valuable training, which was focused on customer focused process improvement.

The Mayor's 2016 Recommended Budget was submitted to City Council on November 12, 2015 in conformity with Columbus City Codes. Building upon the redesign work of the 2015 budget document, the 2016 document included several enhancements to better communicate and engage stakeholders.

Debt Management

The Debt Management Office oversees the coordination of the Capital Improvements Budget (the CIB) and the six-year Capital Improvements Program (the CIP).

The office coordinated the preparation of the 2015 Capital Improvements Budget and the 2015-2020 Capital Improvement Program. Also, in cooperation with the City Auditor, the office participated in various note and bond sales throughout the year. In July, the city issued \$333,480,000 of General Obligation Securities to fund various new citywide capital improvement projects and to refund a previously issued limited tax note. In December, a Sewerage System Revenue Refunding Bond sale in the amount of \$149,935,000 was conducted to refund previously issued sanitary revenue bonds. The net present value savings of this sale was approximately \$15.7 million.

The city's long-term general obligation bond credit ratings of AAA by Standard and Poor's Corporation, Aaa by Moody's Investors Service and AAA by Fitch Ratings, Inc. were maintained in 2015. The city has maintained these high ratings from Standard and Poor's Corporation and Moody's Investor Service since 1995 and from Fitch Ratings, Inc. since 2006. The bond ratings for all three national rating agencies represent the highest long-term credit rating that can be achieved. These ratings allow Columbus to realize interest savings when issuing debt because investors are confident of timely repayment.

Meetings were held with all departments throughout the year to monitor the status and timelines of the city's capital projects, specifically those for which bonds had already been sold

Grants Management

The Grants Management Office does budget preparation and program monitoring for various federal grant programs. As such this office continued to coordinate certain financial and regulatory aspects of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) Fund, the Emergency Solutions Grant, the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Grant, and two Neighborhood Stabilization Program grants (NSP 1, 2 & 3).

The office's program management functions included: the preparation of the annual Consolidated Plan and budget; federal prevailing wage compliance; Section 3 compliance coordination; regulatory and financial monitoring of city programs and contracts; technical assistance to city departments; provision of cash management and financial services; and the submission of quarterly and year-end performance and financial reports. It also administered a loan servicing contract for housing and economic development loans.

Grants Management provided for the administration of federal environmental review requirements for all of the above-described grants as well as other HUD grants received by the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority and outside non-profit agencies.

Purchasing Office

The Purchasing Office is responsible for the procurement of goods and services, including the administration of the city's procurement policies and procedures. Some highlights were:

- In conjunction with the City Auditor's Office, Purchasing continued with the implementation the DAX computer system. The start date has not yet been determined; however, progress was made in the development of the procurement functions, including the electronic vendor portal. This portal will enable vendors to submit bids and proposals, as well as keep track of all of their financial interactions with the city, such as purchase orders and invoices.
- Continued to implement the "Vinimaya" Catalog solution. This system is a central repository for items for which the city has contracts, giving end users an "amazon.com" type experience. This e-catalog solution was shared with some of the city's regional partners, including the Columbus City Schools, the Airport, and various suburbs. Through use of the e-catalog solution, the city's regional partners will be able to leverage the city's contracts, and vice versa.
- Continue collaboration with City Departments on small business initiatives, establishing contracts for the procurement of goods and services, provide vendor contracts with a wide variety of items, including those items that when needed, are needed quickly to get a job done, but are often hard to predict.

- Purchasing continued to manage the Vendor Services portal and publish and award hundreds of solicitations. Approximately One hundred fifty (150) Universal Term Contracts were established and a near like number of formal bids were also established by the office. Throughout the city, over 3,000 bid documents flowed through the Vendor Services portal, with over 2,000 distinct vendors submitting approximately 14,000 responses.

Construction Prequalification

The Office of Construction Prequalification was created in 2014, to pre-qualify potential construction bidders and specific subcontractors to receive or perform construction service work. Its mission is to administer a prequalification process through the fair and equitable evaluation of business entities seeking to do construction business with the city.

While the office began taking prequalification applications in 2014, January 1, 2015 marked the effective date of construction prequalification. The Office processed two hundred and fifty-three (253) prequalification applications in 2015. This represented a thirty-one percent (31%) increase over the previous year. As a result, at year end, two hundred and thirteen (213) businesses were eligible to receive or perform construction service work with the City.

To further expand outreach efforts, Construction Prequalification again participated in the Mayor's Small Business Conference, attended pre-bid meetings, held information sessions and expanded its outreach notification database to include various construction associations in and around Central Ohio. The outreach efforts contributed to one hundred and fifteen (115) first time vendors submitting prequalification applications in 2015. In an effort obtain stakeholder feedback, Construction Prequalification issued the first prequalification survey to its applicants in 2015. With a nineteen percent (19%) participation rate of all businesses submitting prequalification applications since 2014, participants provided the highest agreement overall in the following areas:

- Information availability (93%)
- Prequalification submission process (84%)
- Fair and reasonable prequalification status (83%)

ASSET MANAGEMENT GROUP

Construction Management

The Construction Management Office provides building construction and renovation project management. This office managed more than eighty (80) planning, design, construction and management projects ranging from \$10,000 to \$80 million. Some highlights are:

- The 111 North Front Street Building and Garage, newly named the "Michael B. Coleman Government Center" was designed and bid in 2015 and construction started. The building will be approximately 200,000 square feet and the garage will hold in excess of 700 vehicles and include a bicycle hub.
- A major plumbing renovation for the Central Safety Building was completed in 2015
- Replacement of the exterior masonry for the Front Street Garage was started in 2015. The City's third compressed natural gas station, CNG West on Krieger Court was designed in 2015.
- The Reeb Avenue Community Center was completed in September 2015.
- The Division of Police relocated Precinct 18, from 4560 Karl Road to 1120 Morse Road (SRB), due to site and parking and space limitations. Construction was completed in 2015.
- Construction of the Columbus Police Forensic Services Center on Woodrow Avenue was completed in 2015.
- Construction on Fire Station 3 at 222 Greenlawn was completed in 2015.
- Construction of a new home for Facilities Management and for Public Service's Central Outpost at 1355 McKinley Avenue was largely completed and put into service in 2015.
- Phase 1B of the renovation of the Municipal Court Building went into construction. Under this project the windows are being replaced, the exterior precast is being re-caulked and cleaned, and the main electric service will be upgraded with new switch gear.
- Construction Management Office completed numerous small projects in 2015, undertaken to reduce energy use, improve aesthetics, enhance comfort levels, and lower operating costs. Activities included updates of HVAC systems, installation of new windows, and pavement upgrades.

Real Estate Management

This Office provides centralized management and stewardship of all real property (other than rights-of-way and utility easements) used in City operations to ensure effective utilization of real property assets, increase efficiency, reduce operational costs, and generate revenue and is responsible for negotiation, acquisition, and leasing of property used in City operations and serves as a resource to all City entities for real estate research.

The Office administers lease agreements, negotiates leases, acquires property for use in City operations, disposes of surplus property and oversees utilization of building space. The Office is responsible for managing, safeguarding and maintaining centralized records of all City-owned property, leases, deeds and other instruments as evidence of title. The Office administers the payment of all real estate taxes on non-exempt or partially exempt City property, CAUV information and filings, and assists City Attorney's Office in filing requests for exemption from real estate taxes. The Office also oversees the management of the Jerry Hammond Center and Municipal Court administering the professional building management contract for those facilities and manages the City's contract for vending services for property used in City operations. In addition to these duties, the Office administers the City's property risk program and manages the City's insurance coverage for aviation, property casualty and stored vehicles, boilers, and general and excess liability. 2015 Highlights include:

- Completed contract negotiations, due diligence, and acquisition of 1185 E. Broad Street to serve as the Department of Human Resources Occupational Health and Safety offices and clinic to promote the prevention of workplace injuries a safe and healthy work environment for all city employees.
- Completed contract negotiations, due diligence, and acquisition of properties adjacent to City's East Central Health Facility to provide for expansion of parking serving the facility to alleviate an extreme parking shortage.
- Completed contract negotiations, due diligence, and acquisition of Scioto Juvenile Correctional Facility located in Concord Township, Delaware, Ohio from the State of Ohio to serve as the City's fourth water plant to provide water capacity and redundancy to the central Ohio region.
- Completed contract negotiations, due diligence, and acquisition of four parcels on Front Street from the State of Ohio for construction of a parking garage to provide convenient, safe and secure parking to support core city operations including the operations to be located in the new Michael B. Coleman Governmental Center.
- Completed contract negotiations, due diligence, and acquisition of 3776 South High to serve as the offices of the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging on agency under the Department of Recreation and Parks.
- Prepared specifications and issued a Request for Proposals to identify qualified insurance brokers, insurance agencies, or insurance agents to provide insurance brokerage services for the City's Property and Casualty, Boiler & Machinery, Aviation, General Liability, and Excess Liability Insurance programs. Selected new broker and negotiated a contract for insurance brokerage services for a five (5) year term beginning in 2015.
- Implemented the binding of the City's property casualty, stored vehicle, aviation, boiler, and general and excess liability insurance coverage for the term August 1, 2015 through July 31, 2016.
- Completed four new lease agreements and twenty lease renewal and modification agreements. Administered receipt of over \$1.73 million dollars in revenue from income leases and over \$1.17 million dollars in lease payments for expense leases. Updated City Inventory records for 196 records. Updated the Deeds Database entering 120 deed records.
- Working in conjunction with the Department of Technology GIS Manager, provided information for a complete update of the City's GIS layer of city-owned properties and creation of a new web map of city properties searchable by either parcel number or address.
- Drafted and issued a Request for Proposals for the sale and redevelopment of City properties located at 174-182 E. Long Street.

Facilities Management

The Division of Facilities Management provides maintenance, custodial and security services to over 95 city building covering 3.3 million square feet of space which includes the Downtown Municipal Campus, neighborhood police precincts and training academy, 33 fire stations, fire administration and training facilities, Division of Refuse Collection, Public Health buildings, 1393 East Broad, I-71 Complex and the Impound/Parking Violation facility. With a few exceptions, the Division is responsible for: general maintenance /preventative maintenance, limited renovation to existing buildings, custodial service, landscaping, (19 acre) and snow removal (25 acers). Security

services covers the Downtown Municipal Campus and few buildings under the purview of Facilities. Some highlights from 2015:

- Began maintenance and custodial services for several new facilities: the police crime lab, the new facility is 34,000sq ft. Replacing the former facility of 3,800 sq. ft., fire station 3 located on Greenlawn Ave. and the John Maloney Health Facility
- Complete removal of predetermine waste as a result of the 2014 EMS audit. The final removal of waste (EMS) was done July 2015. In accordance with all federal and state requirements, the division has proper labeling, storage bins and fire rated storage cabinets. All records reflect the maintenance shop as a “small waste” contributor.
- Began custodial operations for the Department of Utilities at several locations (main office at 910 Dublin Rd. and Indianola Ave.) Staffing levels increased significantly to accomplish the custodial services. In addition, Facilities Management established a third reporting location, signifying overall growth within the custodial section.
- In December 2015 the maintenance and custodial sections moved to the new maintenance shop located on McKinley Ave. The operations were previously run out of 640 Nationwide Ave. The new facility has multiple buildings including one shared building with the Department of Public Service.
- Hired a new Security Manager and supervisor to oversee and expand security operation. The security section received new weather gear to support the increase in exterior patrol duties. New technology was added to conduct thorough building tours and increase communications. The technology devices allow the security specialist to record and photo any unwarranted action or damage to city property.

Fleet Management

The Fleet Management Division maintains most of the city's motorized equipment, assists in the acquisition and disposal of fleet assets, develops vehicle utilization and replacement policies, and operates the city's vehicle/bike pool and shuttle bus services. Its mission is to provide services to city agencies to ensure efficient, safe, reliable, and green vehicle operation and maintenance by deploying the most cost effective vehicles, reduce underutilized vehicles, and to eliminate older high-maintenance vehicles. Some highlights include:

- Columbus remains an “Elite Fleet” in the 100 Best Fleets program with the #1 designation in 2014 as the Best Fleet in North America.
- In 2015, Columbus Fleet Management remained an industry leader and was nationally recognized through Bobit Publishing Media as the 6th “Leading Fleet” in the country. Columbus has been recognized in the top 15 as a Leading Fleet for the last three years in a row.
- Fleet Management obtained Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Blue Seal for the 8th year in a row, again making Columbus the largest city in the nation to receive ASE Blue Seal certification
- Implemented our updated “Green Fleet Action Plan” with targets and goals for 2015- 18. Our continued focus on reducing the use of petroleum fuel included increasing the use of CNG fuel to 381,880 gges, increasing the use of E85 and propane fuel and installing anti-idle devices on 94 police cruisers. These efforts led to a 5.4% (162,250 gallons) reduction in petroleum use since last year. The use of CNG saved over \$111,000 in fuel costs compared to the average price of diesel fuel in 2015 and qualifies for over \$306,400 in federal tax credits. The total savings for 2015 represent a \$417,400 reduction in fuel costs.
- Anti-idling technology was installed on 94 new police cruisers. These devices allow the cruisers to reduce idling, thereby significantly reducing fuel consumption. The technology stops and restarts a cruiser automatically without affecting the on-board power needs that are essential to operate computers and radio communications. To date, cruisers have demonstrated a 26% reduction in idle time, or 23,000 hours, which equates to saving approximately 758,200 miles on the cruisers by avoiding wear and tear on the engines.

- Fleet continued the process of developing an Environmental Management System, with a 2015 focus on regulatory compliance, primarily among city fueling facilities, Fleet facilities, and city-owned generators. A baseline environmental compliance audit was conducted at 75 of these locations in 2014. Information from these audits was used during 2015 to begin to address non-conformances and bring these sites into regulatory compliance. During 2015, seven Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plans were completed with an additional seven plans in development across seven city divisions. Several environmental trainings are in development including Waste Management, SPCC and Stormwater Management. Training software was purchased in 2015 to administer and track all trainings. Fleet was able to close five city fuel stations as part of our ongoing effort to more effectively manage our fuel infrastructure and bring all sites into regulatory compliance. Work will continue in 2016 to address noncompliance issues.
- Fleet Management continued its successful drive to provide a safe workplace for all employees in 2015. Recordable injuries remained the same as 2014, although OSHA severity rates increased. However, the trend over the last 10 years illustrates an overall significant reduction in recordable injuries (80% reduction since 2007), a decrease in lost workdays and an effective use of Transitional duty days, which conserve Lost Work Days by bringing the worker back to work in a productive role within the organization. This accomplishment has been made possible through diligent adherence to regulatory compliance and continually monitoring safe work practices.
- All installations for units identified for GPS are now completed, with over 2500 GPS units in operation. During 2015, the GPS technology was upgraded from 2G to 3G by Fleet Management staff with no cost for the hardware equipment. The GPS units provide valuable vehicle data such as fuel and mileage data, idle time, vehicle speed, and location. The units also send information regarding critical engine codes to the work order system so that proper and regular maintenance is performed.
- Auction sales for vehicles/equipment in 2015 again topped \$1 million, bringing in \$1,067,776.
- Fleet Management's auction lot was completed this fall. It is currently being used for new vehicle delivery but will become the auction storage area for vehicles and equipment to be auctioned once the canopy is completed in 2016.

Public Health 2015 Annual Report

Columbus Public Health 2015 Annual Report

Mission: To protect health and improve lives in our community.

Columbus Public Health protects, promotes and monitors the health of the public by:

- Assuring compliance with public health laws, mandates and regulations;
- Establishing policy to address health issues and emerging health threats; and
- Providing preventative, environmental, community, clinical and home-based services.

Overview:

As the local public health agency for the City of Columbus, CPH assures conditions in which people can be healthy and safe through programs providing clinical, environmental, health promotion and population-based services. CPH houses over 40 public health programs and clinics that serve more than 1,000 visitors each day at its main campus, operates 15 Woman Infant and Children (WIC) Clinic sites around the city serving an average of 14,390 women and children per month, and provides neighborhood services through the city's five Neighborhood Pride Centers. This report summarizes CPH's breadth of services in 2015 through key facts by discipline area. (Not all activities are included, so more details are available.)

MULTI-DISCIPLINES

Ebola

- Responded to the Ebola crisis through the Incident Command System (ICS) for 463 days; worked with local hospital systems, healthcare providers and first responders to screen, monitor, transport and provide care to travelers; monitored 476 travelers for 21 days; and, developed a comprehensive community response plan for Ebola and other dangerous pathogens.

Other Community Health Threats

- Protected community health by responding quickly to other local threats, including nitrates in the local water supply, measles and syphilis outbreaks, and high flu activity during the 2014-2015 Season.

FAMILY HEALTH

AOD Prevention Program

- Provided services to 7,933 adults in 2015 – a 59% increase.
- Provided services to 8,812 children and adolescents adults – a 9% increase.

AOD Treatment Program

- Served 968 clients with addiction counseling – a 4% increase.
- Provided counseling services to 23 pregnant and 31 postpartum women through the perinatal initiative, resulting in six women having babies born drug-free.

Dental Clinic (Partnership of CPH and PrimaryOne Health)

- Served 2,149 individuals, including 1,614 new patients
- Provided 16,372 treatment services through 4,212 patient visits.

Dental Sealant Program

- Screened 5,537 children – an increase of 500 kids.
- Provided sealants to 3,852 children – an increase of 180 children.
- Achieved a one-year dental sealant retention rate of 89% -- a 2% increase.

Home Visiting Programs

- Served 616 families with pregnancy and infant home visiting services through the Perinatal Home Visiting Teams which conducted 3,397 home visits.
- Served 87 families with 747 home visits through the Family Ties Program.

- Provided newborn-only home visits to 2,547 new mothers and their infants.

Injury Prevention Program

- Held 136 car seat classes for parents of children 0-8 years of age.
- Distributed 664 infant/child car seats.
- Inspected 480 infant/child car seats at 38 check-up events.

Infant Safe Sleep Program

- Distributed 863 pack 'n plays to caregivers without a safe sleep surface.
- Gave 73 public presentations on the ABCs of infant safe sleep and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations for safe sleep.
- Initiated the Safe Sleep Ambassador Program.

Child Fatality Review Program

- Reviewed 80% (165) of 2015 pediatric deaths. (18 cases (9%) are pending litigation and 19 cases (9%) had only partial records and could not be reviewed.)
- Released *Child Fatality Review 2012-2014 Snapshot* and *Franklin County Health Indicator Brief: 2012-2014 Sleep-Related Infant Deaths*.

Fetal Infant Mortality Review Program

- Offered a bereavement home visit, referral to grief support services and information on WIC benefits to 265 families who suffered fetal or infant loss.
- Reviewed 27 cases of fetal and infant deaths with medical and social service partners, and completed 19 interviews with bereaved families.

WIC Program

- Provided supplemental nutritious foods, nutrition education and referrals to community agencies for 14,390 client visits per month at 15 clinic sites.
- Conducted 172,680 WIC clinic visits.
- Remained the largest WIC program in Ohio with the lowest cost per participant of all WIC programs in the state.
- Held three farmers markets and distributed 3,161 vouchers for \$47,415 to WIC clients for fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Increased WIC's breastfeeding initiation rate to 63% -- up from 61.4%.

Strategic Nursing Team

- Vaccinated 5,019 students in 132 schools (CCS/Dioocese/private).
- Provided 3,964 health screenings at 462 community sites.
- Staffed 46 "health fairs" at CESL and Pride Week events.
- Coordinated 25 CE programs for 745 participants and awarded 36,146 contact hours.
- Provided nursing staff for two emergency Red Cross Shelter openings and participated in multiple disaster drills.
- Monitored 480-plus Ebola victims for 21 days of direct-active monitoring, including on weekends and all holidays.

CELEBRATEONE COMMUNITY STRATEGIES PROGRAM

- Convened 66 meetings, reaching over 400 persons in the Near East, Near South and Linden neighborhoods.
- Met with over 50 agencies from multiple service sectors including, housing, health, mental health, research, human services, development, nutrition, transportation, safety, civic, education and workforce development that serve high risk populations.
- Selected 3 neighborhoods to pilot "life-course" strategies to reduce infant mortality after conducting need/asset assessments in all 8 priority neighborhoods in the Greater Columbus Infant Mortality Report.
- Created 3 neighborhood teams and 3 community workgroups of residents, faith based leaders, local business owners, non-profit organizations and stakeholders in the Near South, Near East and Linden

communities through a series of community conversations that increased Infant Mortality awareness and informed neighborhood plan development.

- Published three place-based infant mortality profiles to provide information on key drivers of infant mortality in the Near East, Near South and Linden areas.
- Trained four South Side residents as Community Health Workers through the Franklin County Equity Institute Connector program.
- Established the Infant Mortality Work Group of representatives from each City Department and Franklin County Job and Family Services to coordinate strategies and align resources to improve neighborhood conditions.
- Hosted a First Ladies Summit for women faith leaders with Ohio First Lady Karen Kasich to expand awareness of infant mortality and begin the work of community coalition efforts.
- Created a resident-to-resident engagement program (CelebrateOne Connector Corps) that incorporates Community Health Worker training and part-time work experience to connect women and families to supportive resources.
- Secured a three-year, \$1.7M grant to support a citywide resident engagement program (CelebrateOne Connector Corps) to connect pregnant women to medical and social supports.
- Developed a low/no-cost LARC distribution program on the South Side, and convened two neighborhood coalition trainings on matters of race and equity and contraceptive choice through the Franklin County Ohio Equity Institute.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH (EH)

- Sprayed 145 square miles to control adult mosquito populations, conducted 8,252 pesticide applications to stagnant water sites, and treated 189 rain barrels to control developing mosquitoes.
- Conducted 17,420 inspections of 6,646 licensed food service operations and retail food establishments – with 99.94% of food facilities compliant with food regulations.
- Licensing 750 pools and spas through 1,651 inspections to ensure safe water and offered the Certified Pool Operator® Course to broaden knowledge of the operation of swimming pools, spas and spray grounds in our community.
- Conducted 577 inspections of schools to protect the health and safety of children.
- Provided rabies prevention through 963 quarantined or tested domesticated animals for rabies and 292 rabies vaccinations for dogs, cats and ferrets at quarterly community clinics.
- Assessed 2,656 properties for rat activity and implemented control measures to get rid of rats.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES

- Held Leadership University to provide education in basic public health leadership competencies and to build a bench of potential future leaders within CPH.
- Provided monthly educational trainings and seminars for management staff through the Supervisory Toolbox training program.
- Provided the CPH Mentor Program to partner staff with a more experienced manager or leader to strengthen professional development.
- Provided 93,746 certified copies of birth and death certificates, and registered 24,328 births and 11,948 deaths in Franklin County.
- Investigated, specified and obtained PPE and trained all employees in Ebola response in proper PPE donning and doffing.
- Scheduled and facilitated required DOT Hazardous Materials training.
- Scheduled and facilitated Hands-on Personal Safety Training for 50 employees in positions with a higher personal security risk.
- Reviewed and updated numerous safety policies and contracts such as Hazard Communication, Active Shooter, Blood borne Pathogen Policy, and contracts for post exposure care with Nationwide Children's Hospital and OSU.
- Trained employees on active shooter policy and procedures.
- Trained employees on the Global Harmonization System (GHS).
- Helped expand the online training platform Lippincott for all CPH employees to improve the delivery of safety training and tracking.

- Held the second annual Camp Public Health for 27 teens with more than 60 CPH staff led activities.
- Worked to improve the new employee orientation experience by creating a comprehensive checklist of orientations tasks by month for supervisors.

CENTER FOR PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (CEPR)

- Held a full scale mass antibiotics dispensing exercise serving over 1,500 people per hour, meeting federal and state standards.
- Responded to the largest Ebola outbreak in history by locally monitoring 476 travelers from West Africa for 21 days each.
- Investigated and responded to 103 infectious disease outbreaks.
- Received and responded to 3,898 individual infectious disease reports.
- Responded to 174 complaints registered on the Food Line.
- Produced monthly and quarterly reports on birth and infant death indicators.
- Provided weekly surveillance on influenza, heat and cold related illness, and other infectious diseases.
- Published nine key health status reports on Child Fatality, Infant Safe Sleep, Men & Women's Health, Injury, Reportable Diseases, CelebrateOne, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Key Community Indicators and Harm Reduction

PUBLIC AFFAIRS & COMMUNICATIONS

- Created a new hard-hitting and research-based Infant Safe Sleep Awareness campaign (TV, radio, social media, bench ads, billboards and print) targeted to zip codes at high risk for sleep-related infant deaths.
- Created the Safe Sleep Ambassador program to train community members to advocate for safe sleep.
- Partnered on the Commit To Be Fit (C2BF) Campaign, featuring: 30-second TV spots that aired 310 times on WBNS; web ads with 1,011,480 sponsorship impressions and 9,267 topic-specific impressions; a weekly E-Newsletter that reaches 7,300 subscribers in central Ohio; C2BF Social Media with more than 5,330 Facebook likes and nearly 2,055 Twitter followers; and CPH featured stories in the 5 p.m. and morning newscasts 8 times over the year.
- Managed messaging and media relations for Emergency Response Communication for Ebola that included developing materials, building rapport with local media outlets to highlight the public health response and respond to misinformation, and collaborating with internal and external partners to issue public alerts, notifications and press releases.
- Engaged and educated residents through social media including 2,948 Facebook likes and nearly 2,747 Twitter followers, and utilized social media advertising as a key strategy to promote public health services and issues such as syphilis testing, lead exposure, flu vaccination and infant safe sleep.

CLINICAL HEALTH

Sexual Health Clinic:

- Provided clinical services to 8,773 clients -- an increase of over 200 patients.
- Performed 7,359 HIV tests with a 0.6% positivity rate.
- Performed 7,601 Syphilis tests with a 5% positivity rate.
- Injected 633 doses of bicillin to patients for syphilis treatment; provided 6 doses of bicillin to the Women's Health Clinic and facilitated the off-site delivery of 39 doses of bicillin for the treatment of 22 persons who either had syphilis or were a contact.
- Contacted/mailed letters to 53 males with discordant labs to provide education regarding Neisseria Meningitidis.
- Ensured provider signed off on linkage to care for 49 HIV-infected patients.

Sexual Health Promotion:

- Served 2,457 clients: 640 non-medical case management, 232 Early Intervention Services, 238 Emergency Financial Assistance, 342 Housing Assistance, 1,775 Medical Case Management, 354 Mental Health Services, and 1,395 Outpatient Ambulatory Medical Care.
- Launched a quality improvement project to improve medical case management throughout Central Ohio.
- Conducted 1,510 HIV tests, detecting 12 positives.
- Conducted more than 4,075 syphilis tests, detecting 101 positive RPRs.

- Launched a PrEP initiative to implement wide scale referrals for PrEP within the community.
- Assured education and treatment for 372 newly diagnosed syphilis cases, including seven congenital cases, and identified, screened or treated more than 400 sexual partners for syphilis.
- Launched the Teen Outreach Program with seven local organizations and certified 51 facilitators.
- Hosted the Adolescent Sexual Health conference with the Youth Wellness Initiative and the Central Ohio Coalition for Sexual Health.
- Hosted a Greater Columbus LGBTQ Health Equity Conference with the LGBTQ Health Initiative and the LGBTQ Health Coalition.
- Conducted 36 Cultural Competency trainings for approximately 1,115 trainees.
- Achieved the HRC Health Equality Index for the second year in a row.

Vaccine Preventable Disease Program:

- Identified and case managed 85% of all Hep B positive pregnant women in Franklin County (152 in total) as well as household contacts prior to delivery, resulting in zero Hep B positive children born to hepatitis B positive mothers through the Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program.
- Provided 29,672 immunizations, including 3,600 vaccines at community-based clinics in Columbus and Worthington, to protect residents from vaccine preventable diseases.
- Developed and implemented the public information and educational campaign “Kick Sick” with Columbus City Schools to promote vaccinations and reduce school exclusions.

Ben Franklin Tuberculosis Program:

- Provided treatment and follow-up for 70 active and 124 suspect TB cases, including seven of the active cases also co-infected with HIV and two cases with Multi-Drug Resistant TB (MDR).
- Conducted 6,408 direct observation therapy visits to ensure individuals with active TB maintained their medication regimen.
- Evaluated 153 TB contacts with 41 (27%) diagnosed with latent TB and 34 (79%) started on treatment.
- Provided 153 HIV tests.
- Evaluated 129 Division of Quarantine referral patients for TB.
- Provided TB education to more than 500 people at community organizations, medical facilities and schools.

Women’s Health and Family Planning Clinic:

- Implemented perinatal collaboration with PrimaryOne Health and transitioned into a comprehensive reproductive clinic.
- Completed 352 pregnancy intakes visits at PrimaryOne Health.
- Provided a clinical services provider (nurse, APRN, MD) to 2,284 patients.
- Conducted 865 pregnancy tests with vitamin distribution.
- Inserted 219 LARCS (Long Acting Reversible Contraception).
- Recognized as a state leader in LARCs by ODH.
- Tested 433 clients for Syphilis with eight positives.
- Provided the Baby & Me Tobacco Free program for 40 clients, resulting in eight graduates and eight healthy babies.

Lab:

- Successfully passed the biennial CLIA inspection.
- Completed approximately 160,000 labs for in-house and community clients.
- Discovered a possible Neisseria Meningitidis “cluster” in our community by following up on a QA monitor to detect discordant preliminary and secondary tests.

Clinical Operations:

- Successfully transitioned and maintained our EHR from being hosted by a third party to directly being hosted by Next Gen which included converting chartmaxx over to current EHR.

- Developed a system to allow new user access submitted electronically by the supervisor and updated the Next Gen website to include new electronic versions of user forms and other documents for quick staff reference.
- Successfully transitioned the SNT program to Next Gen real time with Laptops and wireless cards.

NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH

- Raised more than \$547,000 to support Chronic Disease Prevention, including a \$55,000 Medical Mutual Grant to the Double Bucks SNAP program at Farmers Markets, Kids Cycle programs, and other Institute for Active Living priorities.
- Engaged over 900 residents in community dialogue, surveys, and meetings to get input for the development of the Local Food Action Plan.
- Conducted access to care outreach and assistance at community events, resulting in 388 Medicaid applications and 97 Health Insurance Marketplace applications.
- Created the Central Health Advisory Committee, serving Greater Linden, Milo Grogan, and North Central communities to partner with CelebrateOne initiatives and provide more support for needs in the Linden community; and rolled out a series of community conversations addressing PTSD, youth concerns and resource gaps through the Westside Health Advisory Committee.
- Provided healthier options for 53,327 students through the Columbus City Schools District-Wide School Travel Plan, including 15 schools reached with Safe Routes to School programming and 1 Safe Routes to School District-Wide Travel Plan that was completed and adopted.
- Increased healthier options for residents by providing \$26,280 for 160 community gardens and \$15,520 in mini-grants to community organizations.
- Scheduled 3,264 telephone and 2,779 in person interpretation requests.
- Improved fitness options for 2,200 children and healthier foods for 940 Pre-K kids through Healthy Children, Healthy Weights.
- Engaged 1,507 walkers in Walk With a Doc: Walking Clubs -- a 50% increase.
- Served 783 people through the Access to Care Program.
- Engaged 674 residents in 10 Minority Health Month activities.
- Increased active living options for 545 cyclists in the Mayor's Twilight Ride Finale and 384 walkers on 7 Columbus Art Walks and Landmark Talks – an 8% increase.
- Reviewed 272 rezoning and variance applications for active living features.
- Facilitated 169 CESL (Community Education, Health Screenings and Linkages) requests.
- Increased participation in the Double Bucks SNAP incentive program, including a 131% increase in customers' spending, a 107% increase in dollars allocated to the program and a 94% increase in dollars redeemed.
- Held five community bike rides with safety education and bike light distribution.
- Received the Bike Friendly Businesses Award.
- Created two new Neighborhood Walking Maps as part of Neighborhood Pride and one new Columbus Art Walk map for the Near South neighborhood.
- Installed one CoGo 10 bike station in the Near East neighborhood.
- Completed and published one Health Impact Assessment (SRTS Travel Plan).

Recreation and Parks 2015 Annual Report

COLUMBUS RECREATION AND PARKS 2015 Annual Report

The Columbus Recreation and Parks Department was first created 106 years ago in 1910 with a budget of \$6,000 to oversee 10 playgrounds, four recreation programs, various athletic fields and facilities, and an outdoor sports program. Today, the department has a budget that offers biking and hiking trails, community recreation centers, art and theatrical facilities, special events, golf courses, sports leagues, swimming pools and boating, hundreds of parks, outdoor and natural resources education, family gathering places, thousands of trees along the city's right-of-ways, health and social services for older adults, free breakfasts and lunches for youth in the summer, and programs for those with special needs. All of this is accomplished through the department's vision of providing leisure opportunities for all, which means something for everyone naturally.

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

Communications and Development

The Communications and Development Section raised \$52,679 for the P.L.A.Y. (Private Leisure Assistance for Youth) fund to provide scholarships to children from low-income families to participate in a variety of our fee-based activities, and dispersed \$74,603 in P.L.A.Y. grants to more than 5,500 participants.

Development Cash and in-kind support totaling \$103,049 was secured to enhance numerous department events/programs and the Section recruited numerous residential and corporate volunteers for a total of 77,217 hours at a value of \$1,682,553.

The Communications Section sent an electronic quarterly newsletter to over 40,000 people; launched and employee-driven Instagram program and a strong presence on Facebook and Twitter.

Fiscal

The Fiscal Section formed a business development committee to led the creation of a Department-wide cost recovery framework and policy.

Fiscal was responsible for processing and administering the following:

12,500 invoices, 600 various utility accounts monthly, 175 desk telephone issues, 185 wireless devices, 5 new Universal term contracts processed, 800 Individual Service Agreements, 200 Legislated contracts and purchase orders, 400 non-legislated contracts and purchase orders, 100 Universal Term contract purchase orders, \$6,000,000 in Grant funding, \$45,000,000 in Capital improvement costs and \$3,800,000 in Special /Permanent Improvement Funds.

Human Resources

The Human Resources Section recruited, hired and on-boarded 340 employees, oversaw the installation of time clocks and took the necessary action to implement the Affordable Care Act

Planning and Design

The Planning and Design section oversaw \$31,717,891.13 of work in 2015 including the planning, design, construction and renovation of facilities, parks, trails and nature preserves. Projects include:

- Alum Creek Trail completion 3.5 miles of trail with 6 bridges
- Goodale Avenue Trail and bridge connector to Olentangy Trail opened
- Scioto Trail connector (5th Avenue to McKinley) completed
- Camp Chase Trail in construction began
- Lincoln Pool replacement
- Berliner Athletic Complex Renovation (heating and ventilation, new wood floor, exterior and interior painting, new lighting)
- North Bank Storage Building completed to store rental furniture

- Genoa Park Restroom renovations which included roof, interior and exterior improvements/repair completed
- Walnut Hill Park opened in October (conversion from golf course)
- Saunders Park remediation (95% complete)
- Scioto Greenway included expanded trail system, 785 new trees, furnishings, memorial grove, boating access to the river, and a new plaza named Coleman's Point
- Franklin Park all-inclusive playground replaced the old play equipment with all rubber surfacing and accessible play structure to extend Therapeutic Recreation programming and serve neighborhood children
- Smith Farm Barn roof and siding renovation started
- Improved 6 neighborhood parks: Hilliard Green, English, Stockbridge, Strawberry Farms, Iuka and Kenlawn Parks
- Added three miles of trail. The City's most used trail continues to be the Olentangy Grail with over 1,000, counted uses
- Acquired 45 acres of natural property as conservation and preservation areas.
- Secured more than \$3,600,000 in grant and alternative funds for projects including Wilson Road Park, Focus on Fishing Program, Fairwood Park outdoor fitness stations, Big Walnut Stream Protection, Dry Run Stream Restoration, Clover Groff Stream Restoration, Franklin Park playground, Crawford Farms Park retention basin and a community playground build

PARKS, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS DIVISION

Forestry/Horticulture

- Pruned 3,187 trees which were 825 less than 2014 as we are down one entire crew
- Removed 4,944 trees of which 624 were Ash trees
- Six trees planted in the Rose Garden at Whetstone Park
- Nursery planted 970 trees
- Contract plantings totaled 2,491 trees
- Completed 2015 Urban Tree Canopy study. The tree study essentially stated that Columbus has a canopy of 22 percent, but a national recommendation is 40 percent in this region of the country. Efforts are underway to make strategic decisions, planning and action to strive to eventually bring the canopy up to that level. Forestry professionals see this as a 50 to 100-year plan given the number of trees needing planted.
- Continued our Columbus Ecological Restoration Program (CERP) with 34 events; 434 volunteers; 1,736 hours donated; 343 cubic yards of debris removed and 1,217 native plants planted (3 gallon containers)

Park Maintenance

Acquired and planned for the maintenance of the follow parkland additions

- Scioto Greenways – 35 Acres
- New Albany Reserve – 1.7 Acres
- Old Champion Parkland – 1.7 Acres (site of the old Champion Avenue School)
- Walnut Hill Park – 70 Acres (the site of the old Walnut Hill Golf Course that has been repurposed as a neighborhood park)

Park Maintenance Section started a new landscaping program at the recreation centers; ten centers participated for a total of 78 volunteers and 256 hours. 2015 was the third year of the Saturday volunteer playground events that included 238 volunteers and 714 hours of time donated to making the playgrounds safe and clean.

Field and Reservation Office

- Total revenue generated from facility rentals, docks/stakes, and permits was \$1,325,459.49
- Total permits issued = 9,596
- Total participants in rental facilities - 247,424
- Beginning this past July, implemented a time block reservation policy to maximize rentable times; time blocks are 8am-12pm, 1pm-5pm, and 6pm-11pm.

- Began the process to review operations by calculating total costs for shelter rentals, gym rentals, docks, and miscellaneous permits. These costs will be used to determine necessary fees and areas where costs can be reduced and/or increased.

Warehouse Operations and Safety

- The Copy Shop made 535,259 copies
- Delivered 3,363 Tables and 19,467 Chairs

RECREATION DIVISION

Arts

The Columbus Cultural Arts Center offers classes in various arts and curates two gallery spaces, which are free and open to the public.

- Universal Collection: 2015 brought us one of the most brilliant collections of art that we have ever seen. We worked for over a year to bring the personal collections of Bettye J. Stull and Barbara R. Nicholson to our gallery. This impressive, museum quality collection brought us artists from the highest echelons of the art world and art work from across the globe.
- The Hero Within: Artists dealing with a variety of disabilities took huge amounts of recycled bottles and materials and turned them into an enormous and beautiful art installation. The work was based on a game they created called "Superland" in which the Artists themselves became the superheroes/avatars they had imagined.
- Two training days for CAC and CRPD staff: We scheduled two separate arts training sessions in collaboration with the CRPD Arts Committee. The first was a training day to give Community Center teachers some basic art skills. The second was a workshop about working with Artists who have disabilities.

Aquatics

The Aquatics Section Opened Lincoln Pool in 2015, bringing the total number of outdoor pools in Columbus to 7. Aquatics also operates one indoor aquatic center. Aquatics acquired and distributed more than 300 personal flotation devices youth at pools

Community Recreation

Columbus is home to 29 community centers; 4 are multi-generation and two are for guests who are fifty years of age or older. The centers provide year round programming, classes and camp opportunities for residents of all ages. Three centers were closed in 2015 for renovation or repair: Douglas, Glenwood and Driving Park. Each of these centers worked with neighboring centers, non-profit facilities and schools to continue providing programs, classes and services to the community.

Community recreation held a total of 4,967 weeks of camp, which is up 500 from the previous year, which served 1,470 unique.

Outdoor Education

- Enriched the lives of more than 15,600 participants through collaborative learning and play in safe environment.
- Out of our 2,107 camp attendees, 1,011 different campers attended our summer camp programs in 2015.
- Outdoor Education volunteers provided 11,550 community service hours during our summer season
- Completed our 3rd year of the Traveling Naturalist program. The Traveling Naturalist visited 1,372 participants teaching 83 programs in 32 days.
- Established archery programming at four additional recreation centers with equipment provided through our partnership with ODNR.

Special Events

- Produced the 36th Jazz & Rib Fest for the fifth year in the Arena District. The festival employed and presented 280 musicians from local, regional, national and international touring groups. Jazz & Rib Fest also provided business opportunities to 23 rib teams, 26 food vendors, and 4 merchandise vendors. Two community service, education and health organizations conducted health screenings and distributed information to the public. Partnered with The Color Run, bringing 10,000 runners to Columbus and \$9,699 of income from participants to the festival. An estimated 350,000 people attended the Jazz & Rib Fest.
- Evaluated the Jazz & Rib Fest through audience surveys. 98% of respondents indicated they would attend the event in 2016. 71% of attendees were from the Columbus area, 21% from Ohio but outside the Columbus area and 8% from out-of-state.
- Produced two free programming series designed to reach varied ages, demographics and interests. The Rhythm on the River and FountainSide series presented 19 programs, with an estimated total attendance of more than 28,000.
- Partnered with more than 30 community organizations for Scioto Mile programs, including the Columbus Jazz Orchestra/Jazz Arts Group and the annual free performance of BalletMet Columbus.
- Designed and distributed 25,000 Scioto Mile season brochures promoting programs, artists and events.

Sports

The Sports Section maintains and operates Berliner park, the largest softball complex in the nation. Highlights include:

- 3,589 teams participated in tournaments at Berliner Park in 2015, which resulted in an additional 48,000 tournament visitors to the park.
- 14,256 games played
- Tournaments at Berliner have a \$66 million economic impact for the City of Columbus.

Sports section also manages other athletic complexes available for reservation through a permitting system:

- 121 athletic permits issued
- \$134,702 in revenue collected

Therapeutic Recreation

Through strategic partnerships, Therapeutic Recreation offers recreation opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

- Received a grant for \$61,000 from the Bureau of Veterans Affairs to enhance our Adapted Sports and Recreation program for disabled Veterans.
- Increased our average monthly incidents of participation in our Fitness Center to 300
- Strengthened partnership with OSU Outpatient OT/PT to providing more opportunities for patients to transition to community our Fitness program.
- Increased programs to include social gatherings, table tennis, upper body yoga, and add even more credibility to our Fitness program.

YOUTH AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Youth and Family Development was made its own division in 2015 and includes Application for Pride, Purpose and Success (APPS), Capital Kids/City Leaders and Summer Food.

Application for Pride, Purpose and Success (APPS)

The APPS program is a way to enrich the lives of youth, ages 14 – 21, by connecting them to programs focused on building life skills, character development, jobs, post-secondary education, and by further enhancing the recreational programs the department currently provides.

The goals are to reduce youth-involved violence, address the root causes that lead youth to join or associate themselves with gangs, to reduce gang involvement by youth at the highest level of risk, improve the relationships

between community members and law enforcement, respond to youth-involved incidents to decrease potential retaliation, promote positive youth development, and to focus efforts in communities with the most needs.

Capital Kids/City Leaders

The Capital Kids program helps elementary-aged kids focus on their education. Homework assistance is offered every day, at every site, to every participant through our staff and volunteers. In 2015, the program assisted over 230 students; 90 percent of whom had improved grades.

The mission of City Leaders is to develop the municipal leaders of tomorrow by providing an orientation of the City of Columbus to include Science, Technology, Arts, History, Education, Health, Nutrition, Social Services, Law Enforcement, Safety, Government, Economic Development and Community Service through hands-on learning opportunities and meetings and mentoring by current city leadership.

- 23 graduates in the 2014/2015 class
- City Leaders took part in the MLK March and program at the Lincoln Theater.
- Developed and implemented “*Lets Discover Columbus Camp*,” where for 5 days we took the City Leaders on a tour of Columbus that included the important people and places of Columbus.
- Recruited 20 new City Leaders for 2015/2016 out of over 58 applications received. Sixteen schools are represented this year.

Summer Food

The Department serves as a summer meal provider to children throughout the city. In 2015, we operated 271 sites; served 200,785 breakfasts, 339,219 lunches and 99,929 snacks. The summer food program acquired a food truck to augment our summer food program. The truck is able to visit areas or facilities that are not current summer food sites. It is branded and used as a marketing tool through a presence at events and activities throughout the City. 2,100 meals were served from the truck and it was awarded a first place prize by the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association in the “health and wellness” category.

Public Safety
2015 Annual Report

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

The Department of Public Safety manages the operations for the Divisions of Police, Fire and Support Services for the City of Columbus. Its mission is to provide outstanding public safety services to the citizens of Columbus.

Under the leadership of Mayor Michael B. Coleman and Safety Director George Speaks, the Safety Department improved safety services and contributed to making Columbus the best place to live, work and raise a family.

SAFETY DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Of Significant Interest

With respect to the Division of Police, it must be noted that the City of Columbus was highlighted as being only one (1) of five (5) major cities in the nation that did not have an increase in "Type 1" or violent crime. At the same time, complaints against officers fell for the fourth consecutive year. Significant community outreach and training of officers has been undertaken in areas such as bias-based training and de-escalation tactics.

With respect to the Division of Fire, five (5) additional medic units were put into service during "peak" demand times. Likewise, the Division's EMS response expanded coverage due to an assessment of "run cards" or assignment of personnel to better correspond to the emergency. The Division also has been recognized nationally for their "What Ignites You" recruitment campaign, which is aimed at increasing diversity among the ranks.

Lastly, two new initiatives were started: Response to "Active Shooter" training for all personnel and a "Knox Box" program with local businesses to prevent unnecessary damage to property when entry is required by an emergency.

Body Worn Cameras Committee

The first meeting of the Body Worn Cameras Committee was on October 22, 2015. The purpose is to explore and develop policy, legislative and legal recommendations involving the use of body worn cameras with the expectation that Phase One of the initiative will be implemented in 2015. Members of the committee include representatives of academia, technology, labor, faith-based, business and community groups with administrative support by representatives from the City, including Public Safety, Community Relations Committee, City Attorney's Office, Department of Technology, the Mayor's office and City Council.

Community Festivals

Police and Fire supported major downtown community events such as Red, White, and Boom, Latino Festival, Arts Festival and the Jazz & Rib Festival.

Community Safety Initiative (CSI) (Summer Strike Force)

Police personnel, both uniformed and plain clothes, participated in a summer safety program to reduce violence in Columbus neighborhoods in all 5 zones of the City beginning May 31 and ending August 22, 2015. During the twelve week period, officers made 396 felony arrests, 431 misdemeanor arrests, and issued 366 traffic citations. In addition, the initiative came in \$10,000 under the projected budget; documented 11,081 positive citizen contacts (*5-year high*) and yielded the following contraband: recovered 104 guns (*4-year high*), 9195 grams of narcotics confiscated (*4-year high for crack/cocaine*), 45 stolen vehicles recovered (*5-year high*) and \$96,948 in currency seized.

Coalition for a Nonviolent Columbus (CNC)

The CNC partnered with Friends of the Community Relations Commission to distribute nearly \$40,000 in neighborhood seed grants to 56 local civic associations, block watches, faith-based organizations and non-profits. Those funds were used for National Night Out, community events and other worthwhile community projects.

DoT Transfer of PoliceNet Operations

Public Safety and Department of Technology continued to transition infrastructure operations from Police to the Department of Technology (DoT). All server, network and technology contract administration has been turned over to DoT and the focus is now on bringing Police infrastructure up to City standards and applying appropriate security policies to the environment.

Franklin County Reception Center

The Franklin County Reception Center is a 24/7 center that is open to juveniles alleged to have committed an offense who score low to moderate risk on the RAI. The purpose of the center is to provide law enforcement with a means to process and hold arrested youth on a short-term basis and release them to their parent, guardian, or responsible adult as appropriate; help law enforcement officials quickly return to their duties; provide immediate linkage for juveniles and their families to address potential criminogenic factors; provide increased supervision and resources to juveniles during their involvement with the juvenile justice system to reduce failures to appear and to prevent recidivism; and connect juveniles with underlying mental health or other behavioral issues with needed programs and services. The center opened on September 16, 2013 and has shown success including processing over 1,021 youth during the past year.

Hotel/Motel Establishments

Columbus City Council passed legislation requiring hotels and motels in the City to be licensed starting in 2016 with the ability of the City to revoke a license if they do not operate as good businesses and neighbors.

There were no nuisance abatement cases filed against hotels in 2015. The Hotel Nuisance Abatement Group inspected 7 hotels in the city and issued numerous fire and code related citations using the new tools provided by the legislation.

Mobile Food Vending Legislation

Public Safety assisted Columbus City Council in the passage of legislation in July 2014, which also created the Mobile Food Vending Advisory Board. Support Services, under Public Safety, performed inspections and licensing on 161 mobile food vendors in 2015, the first year of the program.

Nuisance Abatement Group

In 2015, 114 business inspections were conducted through the NAG group, in conjunction with the Columbus Division of Police Vice Section, Columbus Division of Fire, Columbus Health Department, Ohio Investigative Unit (Liquor Enforcement), Columbus Code Enforcement, and Columbus Licensing Unit. There were 758 warnings for minor violations and/or citations to repair, issued during our inspections. The decrease in violations is attributed to past enforcement and more compliance. These inspections are driven by community concerns, and have a direct impact on quality of life issues in our neighborhoods.

Photo Red Light

This initiative has been dissolved and all cameras and related hardware and software have been removed by the vendor.

Teens and Police Service Academy (TAPS)

The TAPS concept is for police officers to mentor youth and reduce the social distance that exists between police and youth. The program is designed to encourage positive decision making and seek alternative ways to deal with negative situations. The Department of Public Safety partners with Columbus Public Schools, Juvenile Court and Juvenile Probation to determine target audience and location. The program was suspended in 2015 while Public Safety identifies a funding source.

Truancy Program

Police have been working with the YMCA for several years addressing the issue of truancy being funded jointly by Public Safety and the Division of Police. 844 truants were apprehended during the second half of the 2014-2015 school year (January-June) and during the first part of the 2015-2016 school year (September-December), 593 truants have been apprehended, for a total of 1437 during calendar year 2015. This program has been successful in reducing property crime during the daytime hours.

Weights and Measures Legislation

The Weights and Measures Section added eleven new inspection categories to the City Code that include: Vehicle on board weighing system, Pet wash, Air hose machine, Reverse vending machine, CNG device, LNG device,

Electric vehicle charging device, LPG meter, Parking meter, Price verification inspection and Package inspection lot.

BRICK AND MORTAR

Fire and Police Facilities

Fire Station: Completion of construction and dedication of new Station 3

Fire Stations: Replaced pavement at 2 Fire stations

Fire Stations: Replaced bay floors at 2 Fire stations

Fire Stations: Installed new generators at 5 Fire Stations to provide back-up power

Fire Administration and Training Complex: flooring renovation

Police Training Academy: Renovation of domestic hot water system including hot water pump and piping for a circulating loop throughout the first floor of the building and new fixtures for the men's and women's shower and rest room areas.

Police Substations: Renovations and installations of various floor coverings in various substations including Sub-Stations 2, 6, 7, 8/16, 9, 1/18

Police Substation 8/16: Parking lot and interior renovation

911 Call Center

Evaluated Request for Proposals (RFP) for design of new 911 Call Center. No decision has been made to move forward with a design consultant at this time. New flooring was installed at the current Call Center.

Fire Warehouse Facility

Design bid complete and a contractor has been selected. The project is currently underway.

Crime Lab

Construction of the Crime Lab was completed in 2015 and outfitted with all the equipment needed to make the Crime Lab functional. All employees have relocated to this new site from the former OSU site.

McKinley Avenue Police Facilities

A contract was entered into to renovate and restore the outside of the horse barn on McKinley Avenue. Fencing was constructed for K-9 and horse areas.

Fire Alarm Office

Consultant contract was awarded, a study completed, a call taker position was created to communications for single point 911 call processing. Hiring and training for the first call takers class was completed. Implementation has been delayed due to needed upgrades to the CAD system.

DIVISION OF POLICE

- A police recruit class of 30 began training in July, 2015
- A police recruit class of 30 began training in December, 2015
- 14 Foreign Agency recruits started in the above two classes
- Graduated a police recruit class of 41 in June, 2015- 27 were CPD recruits
- Received 703,706 calls via 911
- Received 579,335 general information calls for service
- Completed a total of 647,515 dispatched and self-initiated runs
- Hired twelve (12) 911 Emergency Dispatchers and nine (9) 911 Emergency Call Takers
- Took delivery of twenty (20) unmarked/covert vehicles
- Took delivery of ninety (90) Ford SUV interceptor vehicles
- Took delivery of nine (9) PTVs
- Ordered nine (9) new motorcycles for Traffic Bureau
- The Community Liaison Section participated in several National Night Out events on August 4th

DIVISION OF FIRE

- A fire recruit class of 45 started in June, 2015
- Graduated a recruit class of 32 in February, 2015
- Responded to 133,753 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) runs in 2015
- Responded to 33,710 Fire runs in 2015
- 236,951 total calls answered in the Fire Alarm Center
- Took delivery of six (6) medics
- Took delivery of one(1) tiller ladder
- Took delivery of ten (10) engines
- Took delivery of six (6) light vehicles
- Took delivery of one (1) replacement battalion chief SUV
- Took delivery of one (1)Safe House
- Took delivery of one (1)Air Support Vehicle
- Took delivery of thirteen (13) generators
- Took delivery of seventeen (17) saws
- Took delivery of two (2) enclosed trailers
- Took delivery of two (2) ATVs
- Updated on-line Education System

DIVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES

Digital Radio Conversion

The Operations Section of Support Services completed over 900 digital flash upgrades on mobile and portable radios and continues to flash and program radios as new vehicles are purchased.

Public Safety Radio System

The transition to a new public safety radio system began in August 2014. Known as P25, the first of two phases were completed with purchasing the equipment to upgrade radio towers and infrastructure. Phase 2 began in the Spring of 2015 and comprised of installation of all new radio equipment at existing tower sites, electrical upgrades to the tower sites, the licensing was completed for a new site, and non-public safety agencies were moved onto the new radio system for a test period which is ongoing. The year 2016 will see the additional site built out and brought on-line, dispatch sites upgraded, and the transition of all radio customers over to the new radio system.

911 NG

City is participating in the NG911 upgrade for the Central Ohio area. That upgrade will allow for the acceptance of text messaging in the 911 communication center.

License Section

The Section issues 6,187 license/permits and sent out 759 bike registration “bugs”. Of those licenses, 3,558 were vehicle for hires (taxicab, livery, pedicab and horse carriage drivers) and 161 were for mobile food vendors.

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Personnel/Staff

- A police recruit class of 27 graduated in June 2015
- Two police recruit classes of 30 and 30 began training in July and December, 2015
- Graduated a class of 32 firefighters in February 2015
- Started a firefighter recruit class of 45 in June, 2015
- Paramedic training for 20 new hires started in June 2015

Accountability/Recruiting/Training

- Police and Fire Recruiting:
 - Police conducted 2 Police Officer Expos, in May and June
 - Police developed a recruitment website and training video
 - Police held 11 Police Applicant Study Sessions and Get Fit and Informed Sessions
 - Advertised hiring through 223 posters and impact cards
 - Fire launched the Division's first ever Recruitment Campaign, "What Ignites You?"
 - Fire delivered a 2% diversity representation in the 90 band eligibility list
 - Fire/PIO office won three (3) Achievement in Marketing awards, the first government entry to win at least one (1)
 - Both Police and Fire attending community events and numerous career fairs and coordinated with other City Departments on their outreach

Technology/Equipment

- Jointly purchased, with Franklin County, a new fingerprinting system. The system will be utilized at City and County law enforcement facilities and by several local law enforcement entities.
- Support Services concluded the 2 year Fuel Quality Testing.

Public Service
2015 Annual Report

Department of Public Service 2015 Annual Report

The Department of Public Service consists of the Office of the Director and four divisions: Design and Construction; Infrastructure Management; Refuse Collection; and Traffic Management. The department has 759 full-time, part-time and seasonal employees who provide a wide range of services that are essential to Columbus and central Ohio residents' quality of life.

Office of the Director

The Office of the Director includes the 311 Customer Service Center, Communications, Human Resources, and Office of Support Services and Sustainability sections.

In 2015, the 311 Service Center processed a total of 338,238 customer contacts via telephone calls, initiated online, webmail inquiry/request, mobile app, and voicemail. The breakdown for all contacts includes 254,519 telephone calls representing 75.2% of all contacts and an increase from 2014 of almost 4,000 calls, or 1.5%; 64,734 online requests accounting for 19.1% of all contacts and an increase of 4,000, or approximately 7%; 12,017 web inquiries representing 3.6% of all contacts, and an increase of approximately 4,500; 4,940 mobile app requests, which is 1.5% of all contacts, and which saw mobile app usage increase by almost 27%, or over 1,000 submissions; and 2,028 voicemail messages were processed, and these account for less than 1% of all contacts, which is a decrease of almost 1,000 messages compared to 2014. When comparing the total number of contacts for 2015 to those processed in 2014, there was an increase of 12,549 contacts, or an increase of approximately 4%.

The Communications section worked to increase the public's knowledge of the work of the Department of Public Service to enhance the quality of life in Columbus' neighborhoods. The section collaborated with other Public Service personnel, the Columbus City Council and others to unveil the city's first protected bike lane. The city opened a two-way protected bike lane on Summit Street between 11th Avenue and Hudson Street. The project was a feature of a larger project that will resurface 3rd Street and 4th Street from Fulton Street to I-670, Summit Street and 4th Street from I-670 to Hudson Street, and Hudson Street from 4th Street to Indianola Avenue. The section also worked with Downtown residents and others to increase street sweeping weekly in the Downtown area. The effort began in April 2015. Downtown weekly street sweeping has been done for many years, but cars parked on streets overnight had blocked street sweepers from curbs where litter and debris collect. Section personnel also participated in area commission, civic association, and Neighborhood Pride meetings and collaborated with ODOT on communicating road closures and updates for different projects; produced fact sheets for residents and media on snow removal, pothole patching, resurfacing, yard waste, recycling, street sweeping and other services and used the department's website and Facebook and Twitter social-media sites to inform residents, visitors and business owners about Public Service projects, services and news.

The Human Resources (HR) section responsibilities include hiring, administering payroll, benefits, labor relations, performance management, occupational and safety programs and coordinating training for 759 department employees. For 2015, HR reports the following activities:

- 702 filled positions, 57 vacant (authorized strength at 759)
- 135 New hires/Promotions/Transfers
- 61 Terminations/ Resignations
- HR Manager served on Mayor Awards committee
- Worked with the Civil Service Commission to facilitate a testing tutorial at each transfer station
- HR Manager served on committee to choose an electronic performance appraisal system
- Participated in Engineer for a Day (OSU)
- Promoted Drug Free Workplace
- HR Manager worked with vendor to begin process to convert to paperless files
- Updating Public Service General Leave policy
- Updating Public Service Uniform policy
- Hired a new HR Analyst
- Hired a new HR Officer

- Provided drug free workplace training

The number of recordable injuries decreased from 67 in 2014 to 57 in 2015 (a 15% reduction). The number of lost workdays rose from 1,172 in 2014 to 1,618 in 2015 (a 38% increase) and Injury Leave costs showed a 35% increase from 2014. However, the trends shows a 45% reduction in recordable injuries, a 48% decrease in lost workdays, and a 40% reduction in Injury Leave costs over the past 10 years.

The Office of Support Services (OSS) again worked with department leadership to keep Public Service fiscally lean and efficient, getting the most of every taxpayer dollar. OSS managed six operational funds totaling \$98.4 million in expenditures and completed 897 electronic encumbrances totaling \$47.1 million and 4,761 electronic vouchers totaling \$45.5 million. The group generated 2,523 invoices totaling \$10.4 million, collected \$9.9 million and sent 433 collection letters on past-due accounts. The OSS Capital Section facilitated 298 pieces of legislation. The section completed four Ohio Public Works Commission grant applications that resulted in three grants. The section also finished 24 Ohio Public Works Commission grant/loan disbursement requests totaling \$4.1 million and 84 Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) grant-disbursement requests totaling \$10.8 million. The section closed out five grants, advertised 28 construction projects and 13 requests for proposals, created 36 purchase orders for professional services and construction contracts totaling \$85.2 million, produced 24 encumbrances for inspection services totaling \$7.8 million, and paid 647 invoices for professional services, 198 pay estimates for construction contracts and 18 utility invoices totaling \$75.1 million. The Capital Section executed nine maintenance agreements, 29 construction and design contract modifications, 30 inter-governmental agreements and 5 other agreements.

For 2015, the Sustainability section updated the OPWC application process; coordinated and managed award applications for Public Service and the City; authored and edited the JET Task Force Loop Road Study; authored a Transition document for the new administration; assisted in editing the 2015 tree protection executive order; updated procedure and format for monthly and annual reports; coordinated with Fleet Management Division and Public Service divisions to improve compliance with environmental regulations; updated the department's Continuity of Government Plan; identified areas of improvement for emergency operations planning; identified need for refresher and initial NIMS training for established and new employees; assisted the Mayor's Office in applying for 100 Resilient Cities Centennial Challenge; coordinated the education program and installation of Recycled Asphalt Shingles in asphalt paving.

Division of Design and Construction

Scope of Improvements (SOI's) were completed for 34 projects, including 21 Capital Improvement Projects (CIP), 12 Public-Private Partnerships (3P), and one Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF) project. Seven Requests for Proposals (RFP's) were generated for design procurement.

Completed 3 preliminary engineering projects including: Polaris Parkway – I-71 to Westerville Corporation; Hilliard-Rome Road at Feder Road; and Port Columbus Transportation Study. Continued working on eleven preliminary engineering studies including: Third Avenue – Livingston Avenue to Reinhard Street; High Street – Convention Center Drive to 9th Avenue (Short North); Hamilton Road – Eastland Mall area; Sawmill Road – I-270 to Hard Road; East Franklinton Area roadways; Dublin-Granville Road (SR161) – I-71 to Fairview; Hard Road at SR315 crossing at Olentangy Trail; Short Street – Liberty Street to Sycamore Street; Refugee Road – Winchester Pike to Hamilton Road; Refugee Road at Hines Road; and Roberts Road at Spindler/Frazell.

The division completed design work on the following CIP projects: Jaeger Street at Deshler Street - Schiller Park Entrance; Joyce Avenue Phase 3 – 23rd Avenue to Kenmore Avenue; Gender Road and Refugee Road; Georgesville Road and Holt Road; Whittier Street Sidewalks; Parsons Avenue Sidewalks; Fairwood Avenue Sidewalks; Ohio Center Way Bridge over Conrail; Yellowwood at Sandalwood drainage; and Hague Avenue at Carol Street drainage.

The division completed design work on the following 3P and UIRF projects: Easton Square Place; 250 South High Street; Casto Julian (Wall Street); UIRF – Bar Harbor and Brentnell Avenue Phase 1 Sidewalks; UIRF – Brentnell Avenue Phase 2 and Mock Road Sidewalks; UIRF – Hanford Village Sidewalks; and Downtown Streetscape – Commercial Corridor (aka West Broad Street – Hilltop).

Design work started on the following CIP projects: Glenchester Drive at Hilliard-Rome Road; Morse Road at Alum Creek bike trail; Trabue Road East of Dublin Road; Fairwood Avenue Sidewalks – Wayland Drive to Watkins Road; Gypsy Lane; Arbor Hill; Wilson Road SUP – Broad Street to Sullivant Avenue; Polaris Parkway – I-71 to Olde Worthington Road; Hilliard-Rome Road at Feder Road; Cannon Drive; Livingston Avenue Phase C – 5th Street to Kennedy; Livingston Avenue Phase B – High Street to 5th Street; Hague Avenue at Broad Street and Hague Avenue at Sullivant Avenue Traffic Signals; Livingston Avenue at Barnett Road; Cleveland Avenue SUP – I-270 to Community Park Drive; and Warner Road – Hamilton Road to Harlem Road.

Design work started on the following 3P and UIRF projects: Hamilton Road Phase B (S-Curve) – Preserve Crossing to Dublin-Granville Road; Poindexter Village Roadways – Phase 2; UIRF Clintonville (planted medians on High Street and Indianola Avenue); UIRF – Brick Repair; and UIRF – Curb Ramps.

Design and Construction continued work on the Columbus Traffic Signal System, including the completion of Phase B, which connected and upgraded 318 currently signalized intersections to a new traffic signal system and provides inter-jurisdictional communication and coordination of traffic signals with local agencies to the Traffic Management center at 1881 East 25th Avenue. Construction began on the Columbus Traffic Signal System Phase C project, which will connect and upgrade 240 currently signalized intersections to the new traffic signal system. Design continued on the Columbus Traffic Signal System Phase D project, which will connect and upgrade up to 260 signalized intersections to the new traffic signal system. The Columbus Traffic Signal System Phase D project will allow the City to retire the 40-year old coaxial cable system.

Construction was completed on the following projects: Olentangy Bikeway Bridge; Columbus Traffic Signal System Phase B; Lockbourne Road and Marion Road; 18th Street – Livingston to Mooberry; Joyce Avenue Phase 2; Bridge Cleaning and Sealing 2014; Pedestrian Safety Improvements- 2014 Sidewalk NOV; Atlas Building; Morse Road – Trellis to US62; Goodale Bridge (Recs and Parks); Worthington Road Extension (City of Westerville); Alum Creek Trail Easton Extension; Ferris Road Water Line Improvements; Grandview Yard-Rail Street Phase 2; Bridge Rehabilitation - Fifth Avenue over the Scioto; Roadway Improvements-Smokey Row Road; UIRF Bar Harbor Phase 1; ADA Ramps Citywide 2014 Project 1; Resurfacing 2015 Concrete Rehabilitation; ADA Ramps Citywide 2015; Roadway Improvements-Noe-Bixby Road Slope Remediation; Bikeway Development – Spring / Long / Ohio / Champion Bike Lanes; Oakwood Avenue SSI; Resurfacing 2014 Brick Rehabilitation; Roadway Improvements- Rich Street & Town Street Corridor Enhancement (Phase 2); Pedestrian Safety Improvements - New Freedom Access to Transit – Citywide; Misc. Economic Development- Weinland Park Phase 3B; Sexton Area Waterline; South Linden Alleys Lighting Improvements; Circuit 7217 Conversion; ADA Curb Ramps- Sidewalk NOV 2014; Pedestrian Safety Improvements - Rich Street Sidewalks; Dennison Place Street Lighting Improvements; North Ohio Avenue Waterline; Downtown Streetscape - Atlas Building; Florence Avenue Water Line; and Pedestrian Bridge Demolition over 104 east of Parsons.

Construction projects continuing into 2016 include: NCR - Milo-Grogan (aka 5th and Cleveland); DOP Dublin Avenue Substation; Downtown Streetscape - Commercial Corridor; Downtown Streetscape - High Street - Rich to Main; Roadway Improvements - Easton Square Place; Downtown Streetscape - Casto Julian -Wall Street; PSI-Fairwood Avenue Sidewalks; Traffic Signal Installation – CTSS C; Arterial Street Rehab - Hard Road Phase A; Signal Installation - W. Dublin-Granville Road at Federated; Signal Installation - Pedestrian Beacons; UIRF Brentnell Avenue Phase 2; Nationwide Blvd. Duct and manhole System; Downtown Streetscape Gay Street; Barthman/Parsons Green Infrastructure Phase 1 and 2; Ashburton-Mayfair SSI; Eastside Area Neighborhood SSI; Briggs Road Detention Basin; and Berrell Avenue Waterline.

The Downtown and Special Projects section of Design and Construction worked on several project phases of the ODOT Columbus Crossroads project to reconstruct I-70, I-71 and I-670 downtown. This work includes items important to downtown and adjoining neighborhoods such as bike lanes, street trees, enhanced bridge crossings, utility undergrounding, brick crosswalks, and granite curbs. Phases 1 and 2C punch list items were identified to assist ODOT in order to make necessary corrections to the work. The new 18th Street bridge crossing accessing Nationwide Children’s Hospital was also completed with ODOT’s project.

In order to coordinate with the Children’s Hospital project at Grant and Livingston Avenue, design was updated for Phase 2D, which includes aesthetically enhanced bridge crossings for Main Street and Grant Avenue. Phase 2D design also includes converting and upgrading portions of Parsons Avenue, Mooberry St, Mound Street and Fulton

Street. Design for Phase 3, which includes enhanced crossings at Broad Street, Town Street, and Oak Street on the east side of downtown as well as Elijah Pierce Avenue and Lester Drive was being coordinated as the city's streetscape project on Parsons Avenue south of Broad Street was under design.

Overall planning continued for the roadways contained in the Scioto Peninsula area, of which Broad Street streetscape and Scioto Peninsula utility undergrounding design was completed. The project is being coordinated with Department of Public Utilities, the Department of Development, and the Columbus Downtown Development Corporation. Design to update the downtown Streetscape Manual was completed and approved by City Council.

The division completed plans for resurfacing 271 streets totaling 209 lane miles and building 1343 Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant curb ramps (ADA), totaling \$26.9 million in design and construction. Approximately \$2.3 million was invested in preventative maintenance for concrete, and brick streets. Another \$2.0 million was spent on three Citywide Curb ramp projects (2014, 2015-1, 2015-2), constructing another 753 curb ramps.

Division of Infrastructure Management

The Division of Infrastructure Management has as its primary duties long term planning and management services for transportation infrastructure assets including pavement and structures management, pedestrian and biking facility management, zoning and right-of-way permit reviews, plat reviews, street sweeping, litter control, graffiti removal, and snow removal. For 2015, the Division of Infrastructure Management reports the following: issued 14,149 various right-of-way permits; collected \$1,319,475.70 in right-of-way permit fees; received \$446,966.53 in right-of-way excavation deposits. For a more bike friendly Columbus, the division installed 37 Share the Road signs, 56 bike route signs, 555 sharrow markings, 306 bike lane markings, and 59 bike racks. The division managed implementation of 30 miles of bikeways, including construction of projects on the following streets: Brentnell Avenue, Buttles Avenue, Champion Avenue, Chatterton Road, Cleveland Avenue, Dennison Avenue, Fifth Avenue, Fourth Street, Grandview Avenue, Greenway Avenue, High Street, Joyce Avenue, Karl Road, Kelton Avenue, Linworth Road, Long Street, Main Street, Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard, Miller Avenue, Morse Road, Mt Vernon Avenue, Neil Avenue, North Broadway, Northland Park Avenue, Ohio Avenue, Paragon Drive, Rich Street, Setterlin Drive, Summit Street, Sylvan Avenue, Tamarack Boulevard, Town Street, Westbelt Drive, and Westbrooke Drive. The city added the following bicycle infrastructure: 9.1 miles of bicycle lanes, 17.2 miles of sharrows, and 2.2 miles of shared use path. In addition, the city installed its first ever protected bicycle lanes on Summit Street for 1.5 miles between 11th Avenue and Hudson Street. The bike lanes on Spring Street and Long Street downtown were also enhanced with parking side buffers.

The division tracked changes in city boundaries as annexations and detachments were approved by City Council, as follows: the area within city of Columbus corporate limits at the beginning of 2015 was 228.062 square miles; 14 annexations approved by City Council; 0.338 square miles added by annexations; 2 detachments approved by City Council; 0.000 square miles deducted by detachments; and the area within corporate limits of the City of Columbus at the end of 2015 was 228.400 square miles.

The division tracked changes in city street mileage as approved by City Council, as follows: total length of streets within city of Columbus corporate limits at the beginning of 2015 was 2,068.995 centerline miles (equating to 6,387 lane miles); 0.84 miles of streets were added by annexations; 0.072 miles of streets were deducted by detachments; 2.08 miles of streets were added by subdivisions or dedications; and total length of streets within city of Columbus corporate limits at the end of 2015 was 2,073 miles (equating to 6,403 lane miles).

The division managed or established new mailing addresses as follows: issued 4,542 new addresses; currently there are 226,533 certified mailing addresses in the city of Columbus; received 7,767 address-related inquiries from the citizens and government agencies; and verified 391 liquor license addresses at the request of the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control.

Street Maintenance filled 171,574 potholes; removed 9,571 illegal signs, picked up 2,957 bags of litter, swept 17,281 curb miles of road, disposed of 1,542 tons bulk litter and disposed of 9,433 tons sweeping debris.

Division of Refuse Collection

The Division of Refuse Collection maintained and expanded its essential mission of keeping Columbus' right-of-way clean and the city healthy through the collection of refuse. In 2015, the division disposed of: 303,082 tons of municipal solid waste; 21,734 tons of bulk items; 44,299 tons of recycling; 35,359 tons of yard waste; 195 tons of hazardous waste, and 1,506 dead animals.

The City's recycling program reports the following for 2015: Trash collected and disposed by the division increased 2.5% over 2014; residential recycling rates decreased by 2%; yard waste recycling decreased by 5.4% over 2014; and city employees recycled over 758 tons of material in the workplace in 2015.

The division issued 710 refuse and 806 recycling containers to new customers, issued 157 refuse and 259 recycling purchase containers, and repaired 7,630 and replaced 8,368 refuse and recycling containers;

The division collaborated with The Ohio State University to provide 15 free bulk trash drop-off locations in the campus area and expanded outreach efforts during the annual August student Move-out/Move-in period. Between July 27 and August 17, 2,029 tons of trash and bulk items were collected.

Keep Columbus Beautiful reports the following 2015 accomplishments: KCB received the North Eastmoor Civic Association's 2015 Community Partner of the Year Award. KCB gave 98 presentations to 3,874 youth and adults, including 19 Schools, 26 Summer Camps, 5 Pride Bicycle Safety Festivals, and 2 Columbus Metropolitan Library Summer Reading Club events.

Volunteering and event statistics for Litter/Beautification Events in 2015 included 447 Cleanups; 8,849 Cleanup Volunteers; 27,241 Cleanup Volunteer Hours; 402,885 Pounds of debris from litter cleanups; 50 Beautification Projects; 1,812 Beautification Project Volunteers; 5,625 Beautification Volunteer Hours; 3 Graffiti Paint Projects; 10 Graffiti Paint Project Volunteers; 30 Graffiti Paint Project Volunteer Hours; 501 Total Projects; 10,673 Total Volunteers; 32,898 Total Volunteer Hours; and 165 Adopt-An-Area groups.

Division of Traffic Management

In 2015, Traffic Maintenance completed the following: 259 hand work orders; 128 long line orders; 25 school markings; 31 QwikKurbs installed; 25 out of 25 school work orders; upgraded 60 school cross walks; 12 – 8' school legends installed; 530 out of 536 crosswalks were maintained under the 5 year maintenance plan (including the 60 school crosswalks that were upgraded); 10 school flashers installations/upgrades; 27 video detection cameras installed to upgrade standard loop detection; 71 signal inspections conducted; 22 refurbished intersection signals; one new signal installation; 7,194 signs installed; 63,836 signs fabricated; 2,162 street signs fabricated; and 1,763 sign calls completed in under one hour.

The Parking Violations Bureau (PVB) statistics for 2015 include: Added 48 new residential handicap parking spaces; managed 34 Valet Zones, 126 Loading Zones, and 39 Two Wheeled Motorized Vehicle parking locations; no new residential parking permit areas were added; and completed a major parking study in the Short North. Parking Services, PVB and Traffic Maintenance coordinated with Street Maintenance to revamp the downtown street sweeping plan. The new plan included changing all signage throughout the Downtown District; education and outreach to residents and businesses; and weekly enforcement to ensure that all streets were adequately swept on a weekly basis.

Traffic Maintenance completed in 2015 the following: 55 school crosswalks upgraded; 13 – 8' school legends installed; one new school flasher signal installation.

Technology 2015 Annual Report

Department of Technology 2015 Annual Report

MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Technology (DoT) will leverage technology to make Columbus the best-performing municipality in the Midwest. DoT supports the local government information infrastructure to promote the delivery of exceptional customer service, increased efficiency and the achievement of peak performance by:

- providing and sustaining uninterrupted, secure, and reliable information systems;
- developing and instituting information management policy, standards, and procedures; and,
- ensuring digital equity to eliminate the technology divide that exists in city government and in our communities.

DoT achieves this through the:

- maintenance of the City's information management systems;
- development and management of the City's network and broadband infrastructure;
- provision of citywide telephone support services (including cell phones and pagers);
- design and maintenance of the City's website (columbus.gov) and all other web assets;
- design and maintenance of the City's mobile app: *MyColumbus*;
- desktop computer support;
- operation of public, educational, and government access television channels;
- support of the City of Columbus 311 Call Center; and
- design and maintenance of the City's Geographic Information System (GIS).

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Intelligent Communities: Columbus was named the 2015 Most Intelligent Community in the world by the Intelligent Community Forum (ICF).

E-Commerce: E-commerce (*electronic commerce*) is the distribution of goods and services, or data, over an electronic network-- primarily the Internet. The benefits of e-commerce in government include its around-the-clock access to information, speed of service, and transparency. In 2015, DoT embraced this idea through the development of the following online/mobile/broadcast offerings:

- **Columbus.gov:** columbus.gov
In 2015, *Columbus.gov* had 1.9 million users generate 3.9 million web sessions--almost double the numbers from 2014 due to increased marketing, rebranding and rebuild efforts. In 2016, DoT will be responsive to citizen's online needs by increasing and enhancing analytics to City websites. Further, *columbus.gov* is working towards becoming the first city.gov site to be recognized by web browsers as completely secure (full HTTPS).
- **GIS Portal:** columbus.maps.arcgis.com
Created in 2014 and 2015, the City's map collaboration and information portal was further enriched with geographic information and GIS applications to provide open and easy access to the City's extensive GIS database.
- **Warrior Watch:** warriorwatch.columbus.gov
DoT assisted in the implementation and launch of the public version of *WarriorWatch*, an online tool that displays snow and ice treatment activity for a 72 hour period. Development of *WarriorWatch 2.0*, which will feature numerous enhancements to services already being offered, began in late 2015 and will be available prior to the 2016/2017 snow season.
- **MyNeighborhoods:** myneighborhood.columbus.gov
The *MyNeighborhood* website continued to be the online focal point for delivering city information and services such as Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) data, Neighborhood Pride, health inspections, parks, police/fire stations, and schools. Improvements to the system included live traffic camera feeds, and CIP data to both the *MyNeighborhood* website and the *MyNeighborhood* portion of the *MyColumbus* mobile application. The *MyNeighborhood* portion of *MyColumbus* added *Paving the Way* and real time Ohio traffic feeds in 2015.
- **GetActiveColumbus:** getactivecolumbus.com
DoT, in coordination with Columbus Public Health and the Recreation and Parks Department, continued the development of the *GetActiveColumbus* website. The *GetActive* application has been moved onto the City's

website content management application, giving Public Health the ability to edit the content as needed. In 2016, DoT will go live with the a new site, with the intent to use it to update the *GetActive* component on the *MyColumbus* mobile app thus giving it a fresh face and increased functionality on both platforms.

- **311 Website Enhancement:** 311.columbus.gov
The 311 development team received many enhancements in 2015, which contributed to the growth and maturity of the application, the largest of which is the integration with the Lucity Enterprise Work Order System so that service requests for Recreation and Parks and Public Service can automatically generate a work order for efficient processing.
- **MyColumbus:** [Apple and Android Mobile App](#)
Since its initial launch, the official mobile application for the City of Columbus, *MyColumbus* has reached over 35,000 downloads and is receiving a rating of 3.5 stars out of 5. In 2015, *MyColumbus* was updated with a new design and navigation to keep it current with mobile app functionality and best practices. Updates and improvements also provide more flexibility and control to the staff within DoT to add and remove features without the delay of submitting to the app store. This architectural enhancement will allow us to feature more City services since we can add and remove freely. This feature has been essential in providing timely information to our constituents, such as Police Recruiting and Fire Recruiting exposure during recruiting season. This release also introduced a new architecture which provides increased security for the application. DoT continued to update and improve the *MyColumbus* application, designed to be the all-inclusive mobile app for the City of Columbus and uses numerous integrated technologies, such as Global Positioning System (GPS) for location services, Rich Site Summary (RSS) for City News Feeds within and outside the City, and has an entire social media center providing access to Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube.
- **Columbus Government Television CTV:** [Time Warner and WOW subscribers channel 3, U-verse subscribers channel 99](#)
CTV continued successful customer service providing many hours of original programming each month including all City Council meetings. All program schedules were posted on the City's web site and many events were webcast live and made available for VOD (video-on-demand) to the community.

Technology Connectivity Plan: The overall roadmap for evaluating and addressing the City's internet and telecommunications infrastructure needs.

DoT continued to implement portions of the **citywide connectivity plan** to most efficiently connect City facilities for data exchange and telephone voice traffic. This included researching and implementing advanced wireless technology and fiber optic broadband, to provide mobility, analytics, security, and cloud computing into the overall City network. The network currently supports all City data transit paths to items such as the Department of Public Safety's Neighborhood Camera initiative and wireless access. DoT will use information from this research to determine the extent to which connectivity can be used as an incentive for economic development and fiber marketing. A rate structure analysis contract is in the final stages of completion to allow the City to utilize its fiber optic infrastructure for Public/Private use, Economic Development incentives, and generate revenue for the continued expansion and greater good of the Columbus area.

An additional 100 miles of fiber has recently been built and is now operational, with another 120 miles of fiber currently being laid utilizing a partnership with the Public Service City Traffic Signal System project (CTSS Phase C). In early 2017, the next phase of the CTSS project (Phase D) is expected to be bid adding another 100 miles of fiber to the City's infrastructure.

Fiber Network/GIS Database: DoT continued enhancement of City's comprehensive Fiber network. The new network provides a platform from which thousands of documents in a variety of formats can be easily accessed. The network includes the fiber infrastructure, all associated drawings, photos, and other related documents.

Enterprise Mobility Management: Enterprise Mobility Management (EMM) is an all-encompassing approach to securing and enabling employee use of smartphones, tablets, and mobile devices. With ever changing technology our mobile workforce has expanded. Providing employees with common goals, the technology to perform tasks anywhere and at any time, is the new normal. This includes in the home, on the road, in the field, and within large building structures and geographic areas.

In 2015, DoT supported the development and expansion of mobile connectivity systems.

- 1) **Public Utilities Mobility:** Work continued on the implementation of the Water mobile dispatching system that will enable the Department of Public Utilities, meter services section, to optimize service order assignments, assign them to technicians in the field, and capture field information for immediate use. This is expected to produce efficiency and productivity gains, and make the Department of Public Utilities more responsive to customers.
- 2) **Work Order Management:** The Enterprise Work Order Management System (EWOS) is currently being utilized by the Recreation & Parks, Public Service and Finance & Management Departments. This system provides a platform which unifies various workflows and improves the ability to document and dispatch work orders, reducing lead times, improving quality, eliminating duplicative paperwork and collecting the data needed for continuous process improvement.
- 3) **Body Cameras:** Mayor Andrew J. Ginther called for a comprehensive body camera program in the City of Columbus. The Department of Technology has continued to work closely with the Department of Public Safety to evaluate and better understand the policies and technology needed to implement this emerging best practice. Technology will remain engaged to assist in scoping all implementation costs and clearly outline the necessary technology, human, and financial resources required to develop an effective body camera program.
- 4) **Public Safety Mobile Cruiser Support:** DoT worked to improve and enhance the officer experience with technology in their main working environment—the police cruiser. In 2016, work will continue by increasing the availability of applications and improved performance of both in-car and remote systems.
- 5) **Police Application and Server Migration:** In 2015, many Police Division applications were upgraded to newer server platforms, which improved service delivery and reduced costs. In addition, the arbitrator application has been fully stabilized and cruiser video is now successfully being uploaded to datacenter storage.

Business Technology Advancements: Implemented technology that allows the City to provide services that enhance the safety, security and quality of life of Columbus residents.

1. **Learning Management System (LMS):** DoT began implementation of a hosted enterprise learning management system starting with the Department of Public Utilities. This environment will replace the DPU Training application currently running in an outdated Microsoft Access database. This LMS will improve workflow, security, provide automation on manual processes, tracking, and reporting.
2. **Citywide Computer Deployment:** In 2015, DoT kicked off another general fund computer replacement project that will continue in 2016. The Department of Technology initiated the deployment of a combination of over 1,000 workstations and laptops citywide including other funded agencies, for the continued effort of ensuring our end users remain at the highest level of productivity and their systems take advantage of greatest energy efficiencies and overall standardization.
3. **Power Outage Management System:** Working with the Department of Public Utilities – Division of Power, deployed the Responder application. The application provides incident tracking, potential fault identification, and reporting capabilities as well as geographic and dashboard views to help improve operationally how the Division of Power responds to power outages. This application has replaced the Microsoft Access database used for tracking power outages.
4. **IT Compliance and Security:** In 2015 DoT continued focus on aligning with cybersecurity best practice and regulatory mandates.

Development 2015 Annual Report

Department of Development 2015 Annual Report

Housing Division

In 2015, the housing finance team closed 67 loans under the American Dream Down Payment Initiative, approved 131 properties for residential tax abatements (final or conditional), and financed housing units for 48 projects (single or scattered site) that created 242 housing units. In 2015, the homeowner services team managed 538 requests for emergency repair assistance, managed 392 applications for assistance under a variety of programs, managed relocation services for 186 families, and reviewed 436 project applications under the Federal Uniform Relocation and Real Property Acquisition Act. Under the Lead Safe Columbus program, 74 housing units were lead abated. A number of sub-recipient services were managed through several non-profit organizations.

Planning Division

In 2015, City Council adopted the University District Plan, providing the first comprehensive land use and design policy guidance to cover the entire area. The office also initiated an update to the Northwest Plan. The “Scioto Lounge, At the Bridge” public art installation was completed and eight public art bike racks were installed at City recreation centers. Two neighborhood public art proposals were selected for installation in 2016. Seventeen Columbus neighborhoods endorsed UIRF Plans for their area – the culmination of a year-long planning effort to establish five-year UIRF (capital improvement) plans for the central city. The plans include approximately 170 projects with an approximate budget of \$27 Million.

2015 also marked the first year of the Planning Division full engagement with the CelebrateOne initiative to lower infant mortality rates in key areas. Staff worked with City partners at the Health Department to develop action plans for the three initial priority neighborhoods through extensive community engagement.

Development review continued to be a significant focus of the office. The commissions, boards and panels staffed by the Planning Division collectively reviewed almost 1,000 agenda items. Additionally, staff approved 900+ applications not requiring commission consideration. Over 400 Section 106 reviews were conducted during the year. Over 300 zoning, variance and graphics applications were reviewed by staff and the office responded to 92 mapping and data requests. Thirteen annexations were accepted by City Council.

Economic Development

Business Expansion

The office completed 22 business expansion projects that will leverage over \$416 million in private sector investments. The projects anticipate creating 3,363 new jobs and retaining 12,113 existing jobs and can result in \$112 million in new annual payroll and \$2.8 million in new city income tax revenue.

Small Business Investments

More than \$1 million funded 26 small business loans throughout the City which leveraged more than \$7.7 million in total funding.

The office visited 160 small businesses and funded 14 Façade Grants totaling \$42,973; 11 Interior Grants totaling \$192,097; and 7 Mile on High Façade Grants totaling \$33,000.

Economic and Neighborhood Development Services Contracts

Funded and/or managed 17 economic and neighborhood development service contracts in 2015 representing more than \$4.1 million in funding.

Small Business Lending

The office funded \$1,049,500 million in 21 small business development loans which leveraged more than \$7,730,538 million in additional private sector funding. Small business loans ranged in size from \$5,000 to \$199,000

The Business Retention and Expansion (BR&E) Program staff visited 160 small businesses through the in all of the six (6) NCR Districts:

Franklinton

Hilltop
Main Street
Parsons Avenue
Long St./Mt. Vernon
North/South Linden
Interior & Exterior Renovation Programs (2)
Funded 14 Façade Grants totaling \$42,973
Funded 11 Interior Grants totaling \$192,097

Office of Infrastructure Improvement Division

The office initiated more than \$94 million in new public infrastructure improvements anticipated to support more than \$502.2 million in private sector investments in 2015.

In 2015, the office provided funding for the construction of more than \$27.2 million in public infrastructure investments geared toward business expansion, neighborhood revitalization, and increasing the number of downtown housing units. Upon completion, these projects are expected to: create 848 new jobs with an annual payroll of \$60.1 million, add more than 953,000 square feet of commercial office space and construct 467 housing units.

UIRF Program

Twelve projects were constructed in 2015 totaling \$2.7 million. Transportation projects were:
Driving Park Alley repair, sidewalks for Fairwood, Brentnell and Bar Harbor Avenues.

Recreation and Parks has started or completed improvements to six parks: Stockbridge, Iuka Ravine Park, Goodale Park Master Plan, Hanford Village Park, Harrison West Canoe Access and Kenlawn Park.

Public Utilities Power completed three lighting projects: South Linden Alley, Jefferson Avenue decorative lighting and Dennison Place Decorative lighting.

Twenty two UIRF projects are currently in the design phase for construction 2016. The estimated constructed cost of these projects is \$6.5 million.

UIRF staff is continuing to work with Brewery District, East Columbus, South Linden and University to create their plan of UIRF projects to construct over the next five years. Presently, 146 projects have been approved by staff and endorsed by the communities. Staff expects that with the additional four communities approved/endorsed projects the overall total could reach 200.

Work has started on establishing a comprehensive database of UIRF projects with corresponding GIS shapefiles. The Project Management Information System (PMIS) will house data on the currently active projects with the capability of generating reports on status, neighborhood, cost, etc. PMIS is currently used by Public Service and Public Utilities, discussions are being held with Recreation and Parks on how best to import their UIRF projects. Four new TIFs were created in 2015.

TIF program

Old Dublin Road TIF: Created to assist in the financing of a water and sewer lines along Old Dublin Road connecting at Trabue Road and will service a new \$21.5 million 216 unit apartment building and nearby businesses.

Polaris II TIF: The TIF area includes undeveloped parcels in the Polaris area, the Gemini Place extension area and the Lyra Drive area. In excess of \$200 million in investment will be made to create more than 880 new jobs.

Dublin Granville West TIF: consists of 700,000 sf office and hotel space.

Milo-Grogan TIF: Created to provide public infrastructure supporting the Fifth Avenue corridor and the redevelopment of the Timken Site.

In total, 68 TIF districts have supported \$3.5 billion in real property improvements and 65, 000 estimated new and retained jobs.

Green Columbus Fund

The Green Columbus Fund is a reimbursable grant program that provides financial incentives to encourage sustainable development and redevelopment. Private businesses and non-profits may apply for assistance to either assess and redevelop brownfield sites, or to build LEED certified green buildings.

In the program's first five years (2011-2015), Green Columbus Fund has assisted in 48 projects with \$4 million in grant funding.

During 2015, the city of Columbus awarded four Brownfield grants adding up to \$580,000, and one LEED grant for \$47,000.

Code Enforcement

In 2015, the Code Enforcement Officers wrote 17,381 violation notices; 2,987 violation notices were issued on vacant structures. Code Officers filed 225 criminal complaints and 406 civil complaints through the City Attorney's office to be heard by the Environmental Court. Solid Waste Inspectors investigated 4,114 complaints from 311.

Proactive Code Enforcement Team (PACE): The PACE team had its first full year in 2015. The team does not respond to community or 311 complaints but performs systematic inspections in blighted areas (Systematic team) and investigates properties owned by problem landlords. (Landlord Team) Both teams were successful in 2015 and received praise from several neighborhood groups.

PACE Systematic Team: The systematic team completed projects in the following areas: South Linden, Franklinton, Hilltop, North Eastmoor, and Reeb Hosack. A total of 5184 Properties were inspected and 2271 violation notices were issued, 1987 cases were complied and 392 court cases were filed.

PACE Chronic Landlord Team: The Landlord Team investigated 31 landlords and all of their properties. In total 1503 properties were inspected and 779 violation notices were issued, 403 cases were complied by the owners and 142 court cases were filed. 174 properties were sold.

Graffiti: 520 violation notices were issued and graffiti was removed from 237 parcels. A total of \$43,553.12 was spent with \$18,414.40 coming from CDBG and \$25,138.72 from the General Fund. When graffiti violation notices are issued, a waiver is also given to the property owner. The City will remove the graffiti free of charge or the owner may remove the graffiti themselves. As in prior years most of the graffiti cases are the University Area.

Environmental Blight Abatement: (EBA) This team mowed, cleaned, and maintained 100 vacant lots for the City of Columbus Land Bank. They secured openings on 1172 vacant structures, removed 373 tires from abandoned sites, and demolished 8 dilapidated garages.

Grass Abatement Program: In 2015, this program cleaned and mowed 2,358 private parcels that owners neglected; \$419,055.90 was spent from the general fund, and \$150,215.75 was spent from the CDBG fund. The average cost per parcel was approximately \$241.42. The actual cost per parcel and an administrative cost of \$225.00 per parcel were sent to the County Auditor to be put on the taxes as a special assessment. In 2015, Code contracted with 23 independent contractors and six community groups.

Training: In 2015, training continued for the code officers. Training topics included Challenging Work Environment / Customer Service, Defense Tactics with CPD, and Court training facilitated by the City Attorney's office. All trainees attend in house training in order to obtain the International Code Council's property maintenance certification.

The Code Enforcement Team conducted their annual count of vacant structures in the City of Columbus. The final tally was 5,305 vacant residential structures compared with 5,971 in 2014. A decline of 12.5%.

Hoarding Program: In 2015 Code continued to work with the City Attorneys and the Environmental Court to identify people with these issues. The City continues to partner with the ADAMH Board and Southwest mental Health to address mental issues associated with this problem.

Land Redevelopment

The Office continued efforts to demolish the worst properties in Columbus. In 2015, a total of 269 abandoned structures were demolished, exceeding the Mayor's goal of 900 set in 2012. In partnership with the Central Ohio Community Improvement Corporation, the County Land Bank, the Office spent most of the Neighborhood Initiative Program, a \$6.3 million State grant to demolish residential properties.

The team has steadily increased the number of acquired properties that are returned to the market for rehabilitation. In 2015 the team sold more than 100 structures for renovation, more structures than any prior year. A total of 58 vacant lots were sold to adjacent owners to expand their yard, including 39 lots sold under the successful Mow/Improve-to-Own programs. Another 36 new Mow/Improve-to-own agreements were started during the year. With the closing of the Hilltop Homes II project, the Office continued efforts to sell lots for new construction. A total of 48 lots were sold for new construction projects, including lots to the Hilltop project, Habitat for Humanity, Homeport, Franklinton Development Association, Healthy Neighborhoods/Healthy Family initiative, as well as other community partners.

The Community Gardening Program had another successful year in 2015, with 66 parcels licensed for gardens. The City unveiled a new voucher program, granting each community garden \$250 to spend at Home Depot to buy materials for the garden. The City entered into an agreement with the Mid-Ohio Food Bank to start a five acre urban farm off Wheatland Avenue in the Hilltop. The farm is expected to become fully operational in 2016.

Public Utilities
2015 Annual Report

Department of Public Utilities 2015 Annual Report

Director's Office

Initiatives to upgrade reliability, improve efficiency, and ensure resources progressed within all three divisions at the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) in 2015. Following a cost of service rate study and approvals from the Sewer and Water Advisory Board and Columbus City Council in 2014, a new rate structure went into effect in January 2015 reflecting a 3% increase for water, a 3% increase for sanitary and a 1% increase for stormwater, resulting in an average 2.89% increase to the average customer bill. The department continued outreach on the Low Income Discount Program, which provides a 20 percent discount to qualifying water and sewer ratepayers. Since its implementation in 2006 (the initial 15% discount was increased to 20% at the beginning of 2009) the program has remained popular, ending the year with 4,398 single family home participants and an additional 1,486 families in multi-unit housing for a total of 5,884. Also, 3,288 senior households in the Columbus water service area received an additional discount on their water bill, having their water service charges waived. 188 Columbus power customers who are seniors enjoyed a 10% consumption discount on their bills.

The department maintained certification of its Environmental Management System (EMS), based on environmental criteria established by the Organization of International Standards (ISO) 14001:2004, received in 2014 by passing its first surveillance audit in October 2015. The department is one of a very few public utilities in the country known to have a fully operational ISO-certified EMS. The department also successfully completed internal EMS audits at four of its ten facilities and environmental compliance audits for all of its facilities. Ohio EPA Title V compliance inspections conducted at the Southerly Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Compost Facility, and the Jackson Pike Wastewater Treatment plant produced favorable results. The department also received favorable inspection reports from the State Fire Marshall's Bureau of Underground Storage Tanks at two facilities, and continues to implement capital projects and operational controls to address activities which most significantly affect the environment, including potential impacts from sewer overflows, chemical storage/handling, and waste management. Examples include shutdown of the remaining sewage sludge incinerators and ash lagoons at Southerly, completion of the tunneling phase of the Olentangy-Scioto-Interceptor-Sewer Augmentation Relief Sewer (OARS), and significant upgrades to the drinking water plants.

Utilization of technology continues to improve both customer service and overall efficiency. In the Division of Power, mobile dispatching was implemented in 2015: work orders are now transmitted directly to laptops in the vehicle, where field technicians can access them immediately. Benefits include elimination of paper work orders; completed work is transmitted to the Customer Information System and updated in near-real time. Previously, paper orders were gathered at the end of the day, mailed interoffice to the call center then closed manually days later. Automated dispatching also improves efficiency by assigning emergencies to the nearest available technician. All information is accessible real-time for our Customer Service Representatives, who can share it with affected customers. Additionally, the Damage Protection section responded to 136,047 request-to-locate tickets from the Ohio Utilities Protection Service and made 29,203 site visits to locate underground utilities prior to excavation. The department analyzes overall emergency preparedness and security on a constant basis to ensure prompt response and, when possible, maintain service in the event of natural or man-made incidents. The Division of Water's Incident Management Team was activated several times in 2015 for events including a gas line break in close proximity to the Dublin Road Water Plant (DRWP) and during a nitrate advisory. Department enhancements during the year included: updating the Division of Power's Emergency Response Plan; tabletop exercises testing the Griggs Dam Emergency Action Plan and hazardous materials scenarios at DRWP and the Jackson Pike Wastewater Treatment Plant; security upgrades at several facilities; and department-wide upgrade to a new digital radio system. GreenSpot, a program of the City of Columbus, was created in 2008 as a way for people to learn about living and working greener. 2015 saw significant membership growth and now totals more than 12,000 homes, businesses and community groups, each committing to behaviors promoting responsible stewardship of the environment. Nearly 400 households received either a rain barrel, compost bin, or native plants through the GreenSpot Backyard Conservation cost share program.

The Communications Office continued to coordinate information requests, distribute news releases, brochures and customer bill inserts regarding water quality and conservation, prevention of water pollution and other notifications required by the Ohio EPA. The department's website remained responsive to ratepayers and companies that do business with the city by updating existing material and posting new content including consumer alerts and seasonal

topics. Many of these topics and other timely information were also shared via social media through the department's Facebook page and Twitter account, both of which saw growth in followers during the year.

Division of Power

Corresponding to the market for natural gas prices, wholesale electric prices declined during the second half of 2015. This provided an excellent opportunity to secure additional, future supply. After a bidding process late in the year, the division was able to secure supply for 2021 and 2022. This supply covers virtually all anticipated needs and includes green energy credits for 20% of contracted energy. During 2015, most supply was received from American Municipal Power, with small portions from New York Power Authority (hydroelectric) and Central Ohio BioEnergy (COBE). COBE operates a facility on Jackson Pike that converts sewage sludge, restaurant, and other wastes into synthetic natural gas and electricity. Additionally, the hydroelectric generator at the city's O'Shaughnessy Reservoir operated during eight months of the year to produce a financial credit of \$117,000, which benefited our customers. For the year, the Streetlight Engineering Design Section was responsible for overseeing the installation of 776 new streetlights. The section also initiated engineering for several new projects, which employed the use of energy efficient light-emitting diode (LED) lighting. Staff also developed new LED specifications for lighting fixtures for cobra head, teardrop, acorn post-tops, traditional post-top and underpass luminaires. All LED luminaire types will incorporate the latest technology to service future expansions in digital controls, as well as a ten year manufacturer's warranty. Major streetlight projects constructed and accepted in 2015 included: Olentangy Meadows Subdivision; Agler Road/Kipp School; Wildcat Falls Subdivision; Refugee and Chatterton; Upper Albany West Subdivision; Rich and Town Corridor Enhancement; Hilliard Woods Subdivision; Reynoldsburg Crossing; Sunbury Cove; South Linden Alleys; Rail Street Phase 1; American Addition Phase 1 Subdivision; Big Run Ridge 3-1 Subdivision; Dennison Place Phases 2 and 3; Jefferson Park; Nationwide (Front to 4th); Buffalo Parkway; Morse Road Preserve; and numerous roadways impacted by the ODOT Interstate 70/71 Project. The section also performs plan reviews for public and private work; for the year, staff reviewed 733 improvement plans for regulatory compliance. DOP's Distribution Engineering Section is responsible for maintaining substations along with transmission and distribution infrastructure. Major activities included: overseeing construction on two projects to convert outdated 7.2 kilovolt (kV) circuits to a more efficient operating voltage of 14.4kV, which facilitated the decommissioning of the outdated Central Substation; design completion to extend a second circuit on 17th Avenue to enhance system reliability; design completion and set poles to extend a circuit on Olentangy River Road to serve the Division of Water's Bethel Road pumping station; converted the 7.2kV circuit on Henderson Road to 14.4kV; overseeing construction to relocate facilities from overhead to underground on Nationwide Boulevard; and began construction at the Dublin Avenue Substation, where the new switchgear/control building was delivered and installed. Revenues for the division – from the sale of electricity to residential, commercial and industrial customers and from the expressway lighting contract with the State of Ohio – in 2015 totaled \$78,955,697 while expenditures totaled \$78,623,386.

Division of Sewerage and Drainage

The Division of Sewerage and Drainage is responsible for various vital services including the treatment of wastewater generated in the City of Columbus and 25 contracting communities, maintaining the sewer collection system in Columbus, stormwater management and surface water quality protection.

The first ten years of the 2005 Wet Weather Management Plan (WWMP) have resulted in the investment of over \$1 billion toward reducing sewer overflows, with dramatic improvements. This plan was developed in response to two consent orders with the State of Ohio to greatly reduce sewer overflows into local waterways. The last of the major improvements ongoing from the WWMP, the OARS tunnel, is scheduled for completion in 2017. A major milestone was achieved on September 10 with completion of mining operations. When finished, this 20-foot diameter, 170 foot deep, nearly 4.5 mile long sewer tunnel will reduce negative impacts on the Scioto River by intercepting high wet weather combined sewage flows from the downtown area and conveying them to the treatment plant. In September, the city officially submitted details of Blueprint Columbus to Ohio EPA. This new approach addresses the consent orders and solves sewer overflows through a combination of improving existing pipes through rehabilitation – maximizing previous investment into our system, versus intrusive and disruptive new construction – while adding green infrastructure to further deal directly with stormwater impacts to our streams and rivers. Pilot projects continued in the Clintonville, Barthman/Parsons, Linden, Hilltop, and Miller/Kelton neighborhoods. Improvements include rain gardens, pervious pavement and aggressive public and private source remediation of stormwater inflow and infiltration (I/I) to not only eliminate sanitary sewer overflows, but also improve overall water quality. Highlights include: received Ohio EPA approval on December 1 of "The Integrated Plan and 2015

WWMP Update Report”; received a letter of support from the Community Advisory Panel for the Blueprint program; construction of phases 1 and 2 Barthman/Parsons green infrastructure pilot projects; development of final engineering plans for green infrastructure in areas of Clintonville; the voluntary sump pump program kicked off with 76 households and continues to grow; field investigations were completed and preliminary recommendations made for the sizes and locations of new storm sewers; green infrastructure facilities were developed for areas of Linden; and consultants were identified to begin work in the Miller-Kelton and Hilltop areas.

Sewer lining and rehabilitation is utilized where possible to reduce I/I without the cost or disruption of excavating to replace the entire pipe. Sewer lining was completed in the Livingston/James area, the Linden area, and began in the Hilltop area. Additional rehabilitation sections identified by our Sewer Maintenance Operations Center were also lined. Large diameter sewers, ranging in size from three to ten feet in diameter, serve the largest portions of our population; a study completed on the Big Walnut trunk will allow engineers to consider alignments of the sewer, while proposals were received and the construction team was selected for the Blacklick Creek Main trunk. The city accepted proposals for the Lower Olentangy Tunnel (LOT) in December for detailed design, geotechnical baseline report, and supporting documents required for the construction from the upstream end of OARS north to Dodridge Street. Also, design began for the use of Chemically Enhanced Primary Treatment (CEPT) at Southerly to treat wet weather flows in excess of the plant’s full biological capacity and reduce the number of untreated bypasses from the plant.

The Fifth Avenue Dam Project, with restoration and vegetative cover completed in 2014, saw final completion extended to July 2015 to allow for maintenance/repair work if necessary. By mid-year, native vegetation was established to the point where remaining protective fencing was removed and the project deemed complete. The Project Dry Basement sewer backup prevention program continued to progress during its eleventh full year with 43 new backflow valves installed; a total of 872 valves have been installed since the program’s inception in 2004. This program, along with the division’s preventative maintenance program, has demonstrated success in reducing occurrences of basement sewer backups.

Columbus’ sewer line inventory was estimated at 4,443 miles of sanitary, storm and combined sewers. Flows treated at the two wastewater treatment plants resulted in a combined average of 179.26 million gallons per day (MGD); precipitation for the year totaled 45”.

The Sanitary Enterprise Fund collected \$251,795,908 in revenue and expended \$250,589,217. The Stormwater Enterprise Fund collected \$39,381,064 in revenue and expended \$38,744,705.

Division of Water

Division of Water (DOW) staff ensure an ample supply of safe drinking water to what continues to be one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the United States. The well-being of our citizens and quality of life in our community depends upon the consistent quality and adequate supply of water for domestic, commercial and industrial use.

During 2015, 48.7 billion gallons of potable water, in accordance with all state and federal drinking water standards, was delivered to customers in the Columbus metropolitan area. With an estimated service area population of 1,159,817, the average per-capita consumption was 115 gallons per day – continuing a recent trend of reduced consumption levels. Total daily water pumpage averaged 133.4 million gallons.

At the Dublin Avenue Water Plant (DRWP), construction continued on Parts 1, 2, 3, and 5 of the DRWP Capacity Increase Project and construction began on Part 4. Milestones included substantial completion of a new electrical substation, new sludge pump station, new sludge force main, and nine filters were brought online with new underdrains and new granular activated carbon media. When completed in 2017, this project will increase plant capacity to 80 MGD, enhance water quality, and increase treatment reliability. Total construction cost for all contracts is estimated at \$200 million. At the Hap Cremean Water Plant (HCWP), construction continued on the \$70 million Treatment Improvements Project to enhance water quality and improve process control. Construction began on the Alum Feed Improvements Project, and design was completed on the Bulk Chemical Building Improvements Project. At the Parsons Avenue Water Plant (PAWP), construction began on the \$65 million PAWP Treatment Upgrades Project, which will renovate or replace aging treatment structures, equipment, and systems. Construction

also began on the Collector Well #103 Project to replace two aging pumps and add one additional pump to increase capacity. Also, a study was started to explore options for future additional groundwater supply.

Progress was also made to launch our next round of major water plant improvement projects, including: a Program Construction Management team was selected to help manage design and construction of several upcoming large projects including DRWP and HCWP standby power projects, the DRWP and HCWP UV disinfection projects, and the PAWP and HCWP hypochlorite conversion projects.

Additionally, at the division's reservoirs and dams: construction of roadway improvements at Hoover and Griggs reservoirs was completed, pollution reduction improvements were constructed at the Hoover Nature Preserve to reduce erosion and stormwater pollutant impacts, design was completed for Hoover Twin Bridges and Griggs Site 10 reservoir pollution reduction projects with construction planned for 2016, and construction started on the Alum Creek Pump Station Improvements Project, to replace aging raw water pumps and renovate building components. The division invests in existing distribution infrastructure through its Replacement and Rehabilitation (R&R) Program, which annually prioritizes replacement of water mains that require repeated maintenance due to breakage and the need to improve flow to service areas. Major R&R projects in 2015 included the Cooke Road Area Water Lines Improvements project, which totaled almost 2.4 miles of new mains ranging in size between 2" and 12", and replacement of a break-prone 16" main along East Wilson Bridge Road. Overall, \$18 million was invested toward water main replacement. Two of the system's storage tanks, both along Henderson Road, were coated as part of the division's annual maintenance program to extend service time and improve reliability.

The Pitometer Water Waste Survey located 147 breaks in the distribution system while investigating 1,493 miles of pipeline. Repair of these breaks reduced underground leakage by an estimated four million gallons per day. The Main Line Repair Crews repaired a total of 587 main-line breaks and 801 service leaks in Columbus and our suburban contracted areas, as well as repaired or replaced 2,201 damaged hydrants along the 3,530 miles of pipe in the system.

Continued implementation of the Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention Programs have increased water use surveys on existing properties to assure proper protections are in place, with 36,760 backflow prevention devices currently listed in our database. Task-specific software has streamlined this program with the goal of protecting our water supply from backflow contamination. Backflow requirements for temporary water uses and water hydrant permit connections are reviewed periodically for proper system protection and best business practices. The Water Enterprise Fund collected \$185,776,419 in revenue and expended \$181,799,137.

Excellent customer service remained a top priority in 2015. Customer Service Representatives answered 442,845 calls in the Customer Service Call Center regarding various water, sewer, stormwater and electricity questions. Billing was handled for the following numbers of accounts:

Water	275,723
Sewer	271,251
Stormwater	197,020
Power	12,497

Meter reading, inspections and repair also continued to provide excellent customer service by reading all water, power and sewer meters for billing, completing 106,923 service calls – including the installation of 10,763 radio-read water meters, which will improve efficiency – and 1,565 large/commercial water meter tests.

Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk
2015 Annual Report

FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT
COLUMBUS, OHIO
ONE HUNDREDTH
ANNUAL REPORT
2015

Letter from Clerk Lori M. Tyack:

Welcome to the 100th Annual Report of the Franklin County Municipal Court and Clerk's Office. As Clerk, my commitment is to strategically improve daily operations, effectively collect debt owed the court and vigilantly monitor applicable legislative changes. My Office works diligently to cultivate cooperation with other agencies of the criminal justice system and the community. This report reflects the hard work and commitment demonstrated by the staff of the Clerk's Office and the Court.

New case filings for 2015 totaled 179,559 compared to 190,765 in 2014 for a decrease of 5.87% (See graph on page 47). Costs, fines and fees collected equaled \$39,537,747.72 compared to \$39,927,406.01 in 2014 for a decrease of 0.98%. The total dollar amount sent to three collection agencies decreased less than .05%. Collection of court-ordered fines and costs decreased 3.5%. The collection of court-ordered bond forfeiture judgments increased approximately 15%.

Changes in state legislation and local court rules continued to affect processes and procedures into 2015. New dockets codes were added to CourtView for expungements of human trafficking victims. Our retention schedule was modified and updated for sealed search warrants. A new process was applied to citizens' compliant filings in the Criminal/Traffic Division and a "Notice of Court Order" was implemented in the Civil Division to comply with a 2015 Ohio Supreme Court ruling.

The annual audit performed by Plante & Moran, PLLC was completed in May. Auditors performed inspections of accounting and financial transactions, file integrity, checks and balances of duties performed by accounting staff and all personnel records including time sheets. Zero infractions were incurred. Thank you to the Accounting/Finance staff and Internal Controls and Auditing Division for their tireless effort.

A new Restitution Collection Program was employed by the Clerk's Office in February 2015. Upon collection of restitution, if a victim is unable to be located, the funds are deposited with the City of Columbus and transferred to Ohio Unclaimed Funds. The number of payments received and forwarded totaled 1,388 for a total of \$178,838.

Due to the closure of the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles' Reinstatement Office at Alum Creek, the Clerk's Office Civil Division realized an increase in foot traffic. A "BMV desk" was created to improve customer service regarding issues such as limited driving privileges, 12-point suspensions and out-of-state suspension issues.

Ensuring the growth and development of staff is an essential part of my vision for the Clerk's Office. Managers and staff received exceptional training opportunities in 2015. Chief Deputy, Obie Lucas and Director of Criminal/Traffic Division, Matt Pandy, received Fellows Certifications from the National Center of State Courts, Institute of Court Management. Four staff members graduated from the Franklin County Sheriff's Citizens Academy program. All Staff participated in Civilian Response for Active Shooter Event (CRASE I) training offered by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. Training and certification opportunities were also provided to Office of Information Services staff to assist in technology upgrades for the Court and Clerk's Office.

Thank you for taking the time to read our 2015 Annual Report.

Administration Division

The Administrative Division of the Clerk's Office is comprised of the Office of the Clerk, Chief Deputy Clerk, Executive Director Public Relations, Executive Director Fiscal Administration, Director Human Resources, Administrator Payroll & Benefits, Administrator Procurement, and Administrative Assistant. This Division oversees the day to day operations of the Clerk's Office and is governed by directives as set forth in the Annual Budget and the Ohio Revised Code. Additionally, all new programs, contracts, projects, and grants are established and implemented within the Division. It conducts all public relations and internal communications for the Clerk's Office. Accomplishments for the Administration Division in 2015 are as follows:

- Tracked and Expended 99.42% of 2015 budget
- Prepared and submitted \$1,081,419 in ordinances with the City of Columbus
- Processed 176 Contracts
- Prepared Proposed 2016 City and County Budget
- Processed 26 New Hires and 27 departures
- Began implementation of Electronic Filing
- Secured Capital Improvement Funding for Technology Needs – City of Columbus
- Participated in educational opportunities provided by the National Center for State Courts
- Continued professional development for leadership through the Ohio Supreme Court
- Amended/updated Employee Handbook
- Held Mayor's Court Workgroup Meeting to Create Uniform Transfer Process

Office of Information Services Division

The Office of Information Services provides services related to information technology to the Franklin County Municipal Court and Clerk's Office staff. This Division's responsibilities include: Maintaining a stable electronic work environment, collaborating with other staff to use information technology to better serve the Franklin County Municipal Court, identifying emerging technologies for the Court's investment in technology, and providing training to staff on the proper use of software programs and equipment. Accomplishments for OIS in 2015 are as follows:

- E-filing project (mapping our business process, configuration, working with vendor to stream line E-Filing process including installation of E-Filing portal and latest version of E-Filing)
- CourtView upgrade to the latest version in preparation for E-Filing and E-Tickets
- Began Server Refresh project to upgrade server pool
- Initiated Jury Plus web solution and web gen solution for Jury department (Courtside)
- Began process for upgrading Neopost software from print machine to docutransfer
- Added link for Probation Officers (Courtside) in jail intake area (County main jail) for new project
- Worked with City and County on upgrading of apps at FCMC facility (DAX, Munis, etc)
- Added area within FCMC for relocation 'swing-space'
- Assisted in the creation of a new process to collect money owed on partial payment cases
- Began publishing arraignment dockets on website
- Expanded our secure online services to offer select external users access to view case file images online
- Created an extranet server to help facilitate better access to our imaged case files for other Franklin County agencies
- Over 5100 help desk tickets completed (not counting emails, phone calls, in person requests)

Audit and Internal Controls Division

The Audit and Internal Controls Division is responsible for minimizing erroneous data through a system of real time process assurance and monitoring, audit reporting and quality management. The objective is to achieve operational effectiveness and efficiency, assure reliable and accurate financial reporting in compliance with state and local laws,

regulations and policies. The main purpose of the division is to help direct and protect resources of the office while improving internal processes and services that the Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk's Office provides to its customer base, the Court, law enforcement, all external partners and most importantly, the public. Accomplishments for Audit and Internal Controls for 2015 are as follows:

- Directed and collaborated with Accounting/Finance for annual audit process conducted by Plante Moran, (5th year zero infractions)
- Assisted Criminal/Traffic with end-of-year case file control
- Accomplished PCI Compliancy (mandatory compliance within the payment card industry for merchants).
- Changed division name from Quality Control to Audit and Internal Controls
- Audited more than 19,000 case files in the Criminal/Traffic Division. These audits include Expungements, CSG, TVB and Accounting/Finance for Criminal/Traffic
- Worked with Civil Division to examine procedures and make appropriate changes when needed in the Case Management module. Currently tracking the process from case initiation to final disposition and collection of costs. This project will continue in 2016
- Internal Auditor and Staff Accountant conducted numerous audits for Accounting/Finance division. All cashier and cash office audits, verification logs and statistical reporting audits completed, fulfilling the separation of duties standard

Civil Division

The Civil Division is responsible for accepting, filing, issuing service, docketing, processing, and maintaining records for civil cases. Civil cases include: contract disputes, personal injury, property damage, evictions, small claims, certificates of judgment, cognovits, declaratory judgments, and housing and safety code issues. The Civil Division also processes applications for driving privileges. Accomplishments for the Civil Division in 2015 are as follows:

- Created a BMV desk to better serve members of the public seeking driving privileges
- Implemented a new "notice of court order" procedure to reflect mailing addresses on the docket in order to comply with a 2015 Ohio Supreme Court ruling
- Began tracking costs on environmental cases for collection efforts and began planning for tracking civil costs on all other cases for collection efforts

Collection Division

The Collection Division oversees and coordinates the collection of debts owed to the Court, with the primary objective of seeking monies due to the City of Columbus taxpayers. The Collection Division did operate in conjunction with three (3) outside agencies in 2015. Additionally, the Collection Division is responsible for securing surety bond agent registration, monitoring compliance of State and Local Statutes and processing monthly billing statements. Accomplishments for Collections in 2015 are as follows:

- Collected \$955,282.89
- Continued generating past due notices in-house for payable tickets.
- Generate notices when a partial payment is received on a payable ticket.
- Bond money forfeited by the Court for 2015 - \$51,046.00
- Bond Forfeiture Judgments paid for 2015 - \$20,345.65
- Managed billings and compliance for twenty nine (29) active bond companies and over one hundred (100) surety agents

Criminal/Traffic Division

The Criminal Traffic Division processes and maintains Criminal, Traffic, and Environmental cases. The Criminal/Traffic Division provides a multitude of services to the general public, law enforcement, and the Court. This Division plays an integral role in the promotion of public safety by providing support twenty-four (24) hours

per day to law enforcement agencies throughout the County. The Criminal/Traffic Division is also responsible for collection and disbursement of bail/bond monies for defendants who are in custody. This process includes providing documentation to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office so that defendants may be released from custody. The Criminal/Traffic Division is responsible for electronically reporting several types of Traffic violations to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). The Division also processes applications for the expungement of case records as well as maintaining and securing records which have been ordered by the Court to be sealed. Other examples of service include administering oaths, accepting criminal and traffic charges, filing motions, filing search warrants, providing information about court cases, dispositions, future court dates, as well as assisting in the courtroom. Accomplishments for Criminal/Traffic in 2015 are as follows:

- Developed a new docket code for the human trafficking expungements
- Developed and implemented a human trafficking denied/granted code
- Identified and addressed the top three (3) issues in the Criminal/Traffic division for continuous improvement
- Developed and implemented a new process for imaging continuance entries from the assigned courtrooms
- Began discussions with the National Center for State Courts for pilot project regarding CDL data that will be collected and reported to the Ohio BMV
- Updated retention schedule for sealed search warrants and imaged/shredded old search warrants
- Updated the reportable misdemeanor's list for Bureau of Investigation reporting
- Developed a new procedure regarding citizen filings with the Prosecutor's Office
- Provided onsite support to law enforcement during home OSU football games
- Implemented a new restitution entry that is used in the courtrooms for Probation
- CSG and Criminal/Traffic began scanning all sentencing/judgement entries from all courtrooms
- Four staff members graduated from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Academy
- Answered an average of 17,615 calls in the phone center per month
- Assisted Columbus Division of Police in capturing 4500 fingerprints at time of Arraignment
- Met with BCI&I and Columbus Division of Police to discuss adding new fingerprint equipment

Courtroom Services Group

The Courtroom Service Group ("CSG") is a select group of highly skilled Deputy Clerks in the Criminal/Traffic Division responsible for the daily processing and updating of all cases on the Criminal/Traffic dockets. A CSG Deputy Clerk is assigned to each of the Fifteen (15) Judges as well as the Arraignment courtrooms (4C, 4D, 1A, 1B, 15C). On a daily basis, CSG Deputy Clerks docket subpoenas and motions, process unpaid fines and costs, enter sentencing information, issue warrants, process continuances, enter limited driving privileges, add Temporary Protection Orders, update bond information, and update all entries on CourtView. Additionally, CSG Deputy Clerks are responsible for routing files to the Assignment Office, Probation Department, Accounting/Finance Department, Expungement Department, Prosecutor's Office, and to the Vehicle Immobilization Coordinator. They also time-stamp, docket, pull and route Statement of Violations filed by the Probation Department. In addition, CSG Deputy Clerks run and process case management reports.

Each CSG member acts as a liaison between the Court personnel and the Clerk's Office. After court, CSG Deputy Clerks provide assistance to other Divisions of the Clerk's Office. In 2015 the Courtroom Services Group accomplished the following:

- Developed a policy to scan all sentencing/judgement entries in all courtrooms
- Began assisting the imaging department in breaking down files

Accounting/Finance Division

The Accounting/Finance Division oversees the collection of and accounting for all fines, court costs, fees, bail, garnishments, and judgments issued by the Court. The Division oversees the disbursement of collected funds to the appropriate parties, and releases funds in satisfactions, judgments, attachments, garnishments, and executions. The Accounting Division also has three internal payment programs in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code and Local Court Rules. The programs are as follows:

Time Payment Program

This program under authorization by the sentencing Judge allows a defendant to make monthly payments on court fines and costs up to twelve months or until balance is paid in full. Total number of sign-ups in 2015: 2490

Rent Escrow Program

This program allows tenants with complaints regarding their residential housing conditions to deposit rent due into an escrow account until the matter has been resolved. Cases filed in 2015: 295

Trusteeship Program

This program allows a debtor to deposit a portion of the personal earnings with the Clerk of Courts to avoid legal proceedings by creditors. The funds collected are disbursed to creditors equally until all debt is paid in full. Cases filed in 2015: 29

EPAY Online Payment Service

EPAY is an online payment convenience that is offered by the Clerk's Office for payments of payable citations, and also payment of fines and costs incurred once adjudicated.

Total cases paid in 2015: 39,057

Amount collected in 2015: \$7,088,988.81

Restitution Program

This program was implemented February 1, 2015. It is under the authorization of the sentencing Judge and allows the defendant to make monthly payments for the set restitution amount. The Clerk's office ensures the payments are then forwarded to the victim. No extra fees are charged for this process.

New payment sign-ups in 2015:	522	
Payments forwarded to victims in 2015:	1388	Totaling: \$178,838.01
Cases with restitution paid in full in 2015:	270	

The Accounting/Finance Division is responsible for preparing a monthly general accounting for all funds received and disbursed by the Clerk's Office. These records are audited annually by a licensed certified public accounting firm and approved by the State Auditor's Office. Accomplishments for Accounting/Finance in 2015 are as follows:

- Zero infractions on annual audit, performed by Plante & Moran, PLLC
- New Restitution Payment Program implemented. Successfully forwarded 1388 payments that were due to victims
- Expanded information available on the website for the Rent Escrow and Trusteeship Programs
- Expanded the Bond Depositor Information Sheet to also be available in Spanish
- Worked with Civil Division to map formal procedure and process for initiating Civil Restitution cases
- Incorporated a new partial payment process directed by Court Administration
- Initiated the upgrade of the credit card devices to meet the EMV chip-enabled card reader requirements to aide in reducing counterfeit, lost or stolen, bankcard fraud. To be completed in 2016

Traffic Violations Bureau

The Traffic Violations Bureau manages all tickets and complaints issued by twenty-one (21) Municipal Law Enforcement agencies and eight (8) Townships within Franklin County which includes: Columbus Division of Police, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Franklin County Sheriff, Ohio State University Police, Port Columbus Police. The Clerk's Office has jurisdiction in three (3) counties: Franklin, Delaware and Fairfield.

Within the Traffic Violations Bureau, is the Communications Department. The function of the Communications Department is to further promote ongoing communications and the delivery of excellent public service to the general public, law enforcement agencies, attorneys, court personnel, other courts and governmental agencies.

The responsibilities of the Traffic Violations Bureau and Communications Department include the following:

- Initiating payable and mandatory offenses; this includes traffic, criminal, and environmental cases

- Scanning all original tickets, complaints, confidential identifiers and affidavits of support
- Sending out notices for new court dates on traffic, criminal and environmental cases
- Sending out summons by certified mail for traffic, criminal and environmental cases
- Housing payable traffic cases with future court dates and payable traffic cases 30 days after the original court date
- Preparing cases to be processed for the Judge signing session
- Opening, logging and processing mail for all divisions
- Processing payments to ensure accuracy prior to being receipted
- Sending out letters for invalid car insurance and payments for traffic, criminal and or environmental cases
- Processing cases transferred from Mayor's Courts, which may include bond money and slated defendants

Franklin County Municipal Court Judges
2015 Annual Report

Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk
Citizens of Franklin County

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with section 1901.14 of the Ohio Revised Code, it is my pleasure to provide you with the 2015 Annual Report of the Franklin County Municipal Court.

From all indications, the Franklin County Municipal Court remains the largest and busiest municipal court in Ohio. We continually strive to improve our services to every citizen who appears in this Court and to be wise and efficient stewards of taxpayer resources. We appreciate the financial support that we receive in these difficult economic times and hope that this continued support is a reflection of your trust in the way we conduct our operations and expend taxpayer dollars.

The increasing complexity of the laws, and the desire to meet the needs of every citizen who appears in this Court all present substantial challenges to our judges and staff. As you will see from the details in the report that follows, our judges and staff remain fully committed to meeting the needs of our citizens and our community. As the largest and busiest municipal court in Ohio, we continually strive to improve our services and fulfill our obligation to fairly interpret the laws of Ohio.

Please feel free to contact me or Court Administrator Emily Shaw at (614) 645-8214 if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Yours truly,

Michael T. Brandt
Administrative and Presiding Judge

The Franklin County Municipal Court traces its origin to the creation of the Columbus Municipal Court in 1916. Now, the geographic jurisdiction of the Court is all of Franklin County and those portions of the City of Columbus that extend beyond the boundaries of Franklin County. The Court has 14 judges in the General Division and one judge in the Environmental Division. Judges serve six-year terms, unless appointed or elected to fill a vacancy. Annually, they elect one of their peers to serve as the Administrative and Presiding Judge.

The judges who served the Franklin County Municipal Court during the year 2015 were Judge Michael T. Brandt who served as Administrative and Presiding Judge, and Judges Anne Taylor, Scott D. VanDerKarr, H. William Pollitt, Jr., James Green, Ted Barrows, Paul M. Herbert, Carrie E. Glaeden, Amy Salerno, Andrea C. Peeples, David B. Tyack, Mark A. Hummer, David Young (elected to Common Pleas Court in November, replaced by Cindi Morehart), James P. O'Grady and Environmental Court Judge Daniel Hawkins.

Judges preside over civil, criminal, and traffic cases and conduct both jury and non-jury or court trials. In jury trials, judges interpret the law and the jury determines the facts. Court trials are the most common trials in this Court. In these trials, judges have the dual role of interpreting the law and determining the facts. The judges also conduct criminal arraignments and preliminary hearings on felony cases; set bond on criminal charges; issue search warrants; and impose sentence when a defendant is found guilty of a traffic or criminal charge. The judges hear civil cases with an amount in controversy of \$15,000 or less, and cases that are transferred from the Small Claims Division to the General Division of the Court. Other civil disputes resolved in this Court included evictions, rent escrow proceedings, and proceedings to aid in the collection of judgments.

The Environmental Division has exclusive jurisdiction to enforce local codes and regulations affecting real property, such as fire and building codes. The Environmental Division has injunctive powers, and there is no monetary limit on those cases that fall within the Division's exclusive jurisdiction.

Each week a different judge is assigned to the Duty Session to handle a variety of responsibilities, such as applications from law enforcement officers for search warrants, probable cause hearings, and civil wedding ceremonies.

MAGISTRATES

The Court employs an Administrative Magistrate, five full-time General Division magistrates, one Environmental Division magistrate and one part-time magistrate who preside over traffic arraignments, landlord-tenant actions, wage garnishments, small claims cases, and other civil matters. Judges may refer a specific case to a magistrate to take testimony, make legal rulings, and render a decision that is subject to final approval by the judge. Magistrates have the authority in misdemeanor cases to accept guilty and no contest pleas. If the parties agree, they may also hear contested criminal cases and preside over civil cases heard by a jury. Consent is not required from either party for a magistrate to hear a minor misdemeanor criminal case.

BAILIFFS

Bailiffs coordinate activities in the courtrooms, schedule cases, provide docket management, provide information to the public about the status of cases, and act as liaisons between their assigned judge or magistrate and attorneys, court personnel, and the general public. Each judge has an assigned courtroom bailiff, there is an unassigned or "floater" bailiff who rotates among the judges when a judge's bailiff is absent, and there is a Duty Room Bailiff. Each magistrate also has a bailiff.

COURT ADMINISTRATION

Court Administration oversees the administrative and operational functions of the Court. It carries out the non-judicial policies of the Court. In addition to providing overall support and direction to the Court's nearly 200 employees, some of its specific functions include personnel management, budgeting and fiscal management, purchasing, liaison with other courts and agencies, public information, appointment of counsel, court support services, court security, interpreter services, vehicle immobilization, and volunteer services. The Court Administrator is the chief non-judicial officer.

The Court's General Fund Operating budget for 2015 was \$17,119,315 with an additional \$1,646,877 Secure Facilities Fund budget and \$350,064 Computer Fund budget.

Breakdown of General Fund Operating Budget 2015

Personal services	\$15,291,641
Materials and supplies	41,906
Services	1,445,768
Other expenditures	340,000
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$16,119,315

COURT SUPPORT SERVICES

Court Support Services is a two-person unit that helps defendants resolve matters such as extensions of time to pay fines and court costs, delaying the start of court-ordered incarceration, issuance of or change in limited driving privileges, withdrawal of warrant or order-in that has been issued, assistance with impounded vehicle, assistance with Bureau of Motor Vehicle problems, and continuance of a court date. In 2015, Court Investigation assisted approximately 5,926 individuals with an average of 25 people per day. 40% of the defendants who requested an extension for fines and court cost were able to receive an extension of time to pay.

COURT SECURITY PROGRAM

The Court Security Program was established to maintain a safe environment in the courthouse for elected officials, Court employees, and all others having business in the courthouse. The staff consists of a Security Director, Security Supervisor, Administrative Assistant, Control Room Operator, and 18 Security Officers on the first shift, plus a control room operator on the second and third shifts. In addition, the Court contracts with a private security company that provides evening, weekend, and holiday coverage. During 2015 approximately 1.079 million visitors to the Court were screened at the Court's entry points by Security Officers.

INTERPRETER SERVICES

During 2015, the Court employed two full-time Spanish language interpreters and one full-time Somali language interpreter and contracted for one part-time Spanish language interpreter. Together they completed an estimated 5,064 requests for service (4,237 in Spanish and 827 in Somali). The Court has multiple contracts with outside vendors to provide foreign language and ASL interpreters. There were 1,016 requests for interpreters in 31 other languages, 938 requests were filled by onsite interpreters and 78 requests in languages of lesser diffusion like Fulani, Burmese, Hakha Chin, Oromo, and Krio were covered through telephonic interpretation. The foreign languages for which interpreters were most requested were Spanish, Somali, Arabic, Nepali, ASL, Tigrinya, French, Russian, Mandarin, and Amharic. Additionally, the Court filled 145 requests for American Sign Language interpretation. The Interpreter Services department continues to offer training opportunities and a mentoring program for judiciary interpreters, to assist them in the process to become certified by the Supreme Court of Ohio.

VEHICLE SANCTIONS PROGRAM

State law mandates the immobilization or forfeiture of vehicles operated by defendants who are convicted of the following offenses: repeat OVI offenses (operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs) and driving under certain court or BMV related suspensions. Immobilization or forfeiture of vehicles involved in suspension cases related to the Financial Responsibility Act or wrongful entrustment of a vehicle are at the Court's discretion. In 2015, the Court processed 7,614 driving under suspension cases and 8,472 OVI cases. The driving under suspension case filings are down 8.8% from 2014, and the OVI case filings experienced an 8.9% decrease.

The program's two employees act as a liaison and are responsible for the communications to and from the courts, law enforcement and defendants to ensure compliance with the court's orders involving the defendant's vehicle.

ASSIGNMENT OFFICE

The Assignment Office is responsible for the assignment of Judges to criminal, traffic, and civil cases. The Ohio Rules of Superintendence, promulgated by the Supreme Court of Ohio, require that cases be assigned to Judges in a random manner. Random assignment occurs at the time a defendant enters a “not guilty” plea in criminal and traffic cases, and upon the filing of a motion or an answer in civil cases. Local Rules are also used to define the assignment of cases (Local Rules 1 and 8), including use of a “single assignment system.” This means that when a person is charged with a criminal or traffic offense and already has a pending criminal or traffic case, or the person is on probation to this Court, the new charge(s) will be assigned to the Judge who presided over the previous case.

Once a case is assigned to a Judge, the Assignment Office is responsible for the management of the case as it proceeds through the Court system. The Assignment Office generates the daily Court dockets for the Judges and distributes case listing reports throughout the Court System. In 2015, the Assignment Office processed 2,491 new or reactivated civil cases, 3,479 environmental cases, and 43,521 new or reactivated criminal or traffic cases. Other than initial appearances and other pre-sentence hearings, the Assignment Office scheduled approximately 115,000 court proceedings and mailed a minimum of 500,000 Court appearance notices.

The Assignment Office is also responsible for completing the monthly Individual Judges’ report for the Ohio Supreme Court, preparing other necessary reports to manage cases, the monitoring of cases assigned to Visiting Judges when needed, scheduling and managing of sealing of records cases, and for the monitoring of assigned specialized docket cases. Currently, four of the Court’s 15 Judges preside over specialized dockets. The Assignment Office employs the Assignment Commissioner, seven Case Coordinators, one Unassigned Case Coordinator, four full-time Assignment Clerks, and two part-time Assignment Clerks.

COURT REPORTERS

Court Reporters make a verbatim record of court proceedings, prepare a transcript from the record of court proceedings upon request, and maintain records of exhibits introduced at court proceedings. The Court has an obligation to provide a transcript of all proceedings upon request of a party, and there must be a court record of all pleas and waivers. In 2015 there were 12 full-time Court Reporters and 2 part-time Court Reporters and they produced 240 requested transcripts.

JURY COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE

It is the duty of the Jury Commissioner’s Office to summon, orient and assign prospective trial jurors to courtrooms when needed. The Jury Commission tracks *voir dire* (a preliminary examination of prospective jurors to determine their qualifications and suitability to serve on a jury, in order to ensure the selection of fair and impartial jury) results and trial verdicts, and collects demographic data to ensure the jury venire (those summoned for jury service) is a true sampling of all cognizable groups in Franklin County’s qualified population.

Jury service is limited to two weeks, except in those cases for which additional days are required to reach a verdict. In certain instances, jurors will serve for one week only. Several different reporting times are offered to accommodate parking issues and work schedules. The Franklin County Municipal Court provides vouchers for parking in two local garages and passes for Cota. The number of jurors summoned in 2015 was 3,731. The reporting percentage for 2015 was 89.53 (adjusted yield from expected) while the failure to appear rate was 5.25%, which is below national averages. Jurors are paid \$15.00 per day as well as travel expenses for each day they are in attendance.

LEGAL RESEARCH

The Court employs a Legal Research Supervisor who provides legal research, supervises the work of part-time law clerks, and serves as a part-time magistrate. The Supervisor and Law Clerks research and prepare memoranda on issues pending before the Court, maintain research and reference materials, review new case law to ensure the Court’s compliance with the decisions, review pending legislation that may affect the Court, and advise the Judges and Employees regarding new legal developments and applications of current law to court procedures.

DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION SERVICES

The Department of Probation Services (DOPS) serves the Franklin County Municipal Court Judges under the immediate direction of the Court Administrator. The largest division of the Court, the staff of the DOPS's vision is *excellence in rehabilitation through evidence based practices* and its mission is to *promote community safety by reducing recidivism, changing offender behavior, and fostering accountability through effective use of evidence based practices*. The DOPS works with those under its supervision to gain compliance with court-ordered conditions that are aimed at addressing assessed risk factors. These conditions can include any combination of behavioral health assessments, educational programs, counseling for mental health or substance abuse issues, and random urinalysis.

During 2015 the Department supervised 10,608 total cases, including 6,000 new probation placements. At year's end 16,333 cases remained assigned or on warrant to the Probation Department.

In 2015, the DOPS was staffed by 46 probation officers who reported to four probation officer supervisors. Caseload assignments include General Supervision, Domestic Violence Unit, Multiple OVI Program, Mental Health Specialist, Electronic Monitoring/ Home Incarceration, Work Release and the Investigation Unit. Officers are also assigned to the Court's innovative specialized docket programs, including the Mental Health Program, Military and Veteran Service (MAVS), Changing Actions to Change Habits (CATCH), Alcohol and Drug Addiction Program (ADAP), and the Opiate Extension Program (OEP). Each of these caseloads is monitored by highly trained professional staff, many of whom have specialized training, certifications and licensures in their areas of specialty.

In 2015, the DOPS developed a Vivitrol Program that utilizes specialized and intensive supervision and treatment of opiate dependent individuals. This program is a unique partnership that allows for the identification, screening, assessment and medication assisted treatment phase to begin prior to the individual's release from custody, thus supporting the participant's transition to the community.

During 2015, the DOPS received grant funding to develop and implement a pretrial services program. The pretrial program brought an additional five (5) pretrial officers and one (1) pretrial supervisor to the department. The goals of the pretrial services program are to: reduce the length of pretrial detention for appropriately assessed defendants, particularly those diagnosed with a severe mental illness, who are charged with criminal misdemeanors (minus domestic violence offenses) and operating a motor vehicle intoxicated offenses. Additional goals include reducing pretrial failure to appear rates and promoting public safety during the pretrial phase.

The department also boasts an electronic monitoring/home incarceration (EMHI) and work release program that allow defendants to serve their sentences in the community. These programs represent significant savings to the public. The Work Release Program provided the opportunity for employed defendants to retain their jobs while serving their jail sentences. A total of 6,080 jail days were served in this fashion, and \$82,440 was collected from participants toward funding of the program. The EMHI program monitored 204 offenders via GPS, monitoring their movements within the community as ordered by the court. Officers assigned to the Work Release and EMHI caseloads are on call and respond to program violations 24 hours per day, facilitating warrants and alerting victims to violations as appropriate.

The Community Sanctions Unit, comprised of four (4) staff and one (1) supervisor, monitored 2,287 individuals who were sentenced to Provided No Convictions status for new charges. This unit also schedules and monitors court-ordered community service and restitution collection. In 2015, 21,931 hours of community service were ordered, and 17,390 were successfully completed. A total of \$271,235 in restitution was ordered in 386 cases last year, and \$204,126 was collected and disbursed, with 293 victims fully paid. The remaining cases are still paying, revoked, or on order-in status.

The DOPS has one (1) Evaluation Specialist on staff who assesses potential referrals for inpatient substance abuse treatment to ensure they are clinically appropriate for subsidized services. This individual also conducts general assessments for the court and probation officers to identify and provide treatment needs and options. These requests come from both the court and at the request of probation officers. This individual conducts assessments in the office, as well as, within the jail setting as needed. This position assists the court in the management of reporting requirements related to the Suzanne Hopper Act, which requires that courts identify offenders with specific mental health diagnoses and convictions and report their sentence to law enforcement. Additionally, the Evaluation

Specialist serves as a member of the Franklin County Hoarder Project team along with staff members from Environmental Court, ADAMH Board, mental health treatment agencies and code enforcement departments.

The DOPS support unit, which includes twelve (12) support staff and one (1) supervisor, provides essential support for the department's many operations. This staff provides both out-of-custody and in-custody intake services, reception services and department support services such as, scanning and imaging, running computerized criminal history reports, and file management. Additionally, the department's 2 Victim Assistants have pursued and maintain credentials as registered advocates, providing critical support and guidance to victims of probation cases. Their close collaboration with the Domestic Violence Unit staff assists in addressing the critical needs and issues involved with these cases.

The Chief Probation Officer is responsible for the overall operation of the Department of Probation Services, and is supported by the Deputy Chief Probation Officer and Supervisors in facilitating all of the department's programs. Probationers paid \$555,653.93 in probation user fees in 2015, holding down probation-related costs to taxpayers. Careful management and utilization of this budget is essential to provide the much needed services and programs to those under the department's supervision and includes services such as: substance abuse treatment, drug and alcohol testing, subsidized domestic violence programming, staff training and equipment.

The DOPS has continues to work toward the digitalization of probation caseloads in effort to streamline workflow, increase data collection capabilities and streamline processes within the department. This project will continue to be advanced in 2016.

SERVICE BAILIFFS

Service Bailiffs assist litigants, attorneys, and the Court by delivering court documents to parties and enforcing both pre-judgment and post-judgment remedies. Responsibilities include service of complaints, summonses, criminal and civil subpoenas, garnishments, juror letters, and probation revocation hearing notices. Writs of replevin are enforced through seizure of property to be returned to the rightful owners, and writs of execution through levy and sale of personal property for the purpose of satisfying judgments. Additionally, Service Bailiffs supervise the set-out of tenants' property during evictions.

The Service Bailiffs' Department processed or served in excess of 42,345 legal documents in 2015 and supervised over 1,356 set-outs. The Department currently employs 17 full-time individuals: a Chief Service Bailiff, 2 Deputy Chief Service Bailiffs, 12 Service Bailiffs, and a Secretary/Receptionist.

SMALL CLAIMS DIVISION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION DEPARTMENT

The **Small Claims Division (Division)** helps individuals and businesses file claims for money damages up to \$3,000. Small Claims Court is less formal than the General Division of the Court and individuals do not need an attorney. The Small Claims Court and its processes are governed by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 1925.

The Division provides information, forms, and instructions for small claims cases. The Division maintains a user-friendly website that contains all of the information required to initiate and complete a small claims case (smallclaims.fmcclerk.com). In 2015, the Division added videos to better explain small claims processes. **More than 28,000 users accessed the Division's website and videos.**

The Division has six full-time employees that support the Court and its magistrates. Division staff initiate, assign, and schedule small claims cases for trial. Staff also set new hearing dates based on continuance requests and the need to re-issue service. In addition to managing and processing cases for the small claims docket, Division staff answer questions about small claims court and other municipal court services. **Division staff managed 5,953 small claims cases in 2015.**

The Court's **Dispute Resolution Department (Department)** coordinates and facilitates mediations for the General and Small Claims Divisions. The Department maintains six mediation programs. **In 2015, the Department facilitated a total of 1,818 mediations.**

- **769** General Division Docket
- **274** Rent Escrow
- **93** Eviction (1st Cause of Action)
- **97** Small Claims Day-Of-Trial
- **585** Pre-Filing Mediation/Check and Account Resolution

The Department uses a combination of volunteer, contract, and staff mediators. Mediators come from the community at large, Nationwide Insurance Company, Capital University Law School and The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. Each mediator receives extensive mediation training prior to serving as a court mediator. **Volunteer mediators contributed more than 10,000 hours to the Court's dispute resolution services.**

The Small Claims Division and Dispute Resolution Department continue to work with the legal community to enhance access to court information and services. The Division collaborated with the Legal Aid Society of Columbus to develop informative videos for individuals interested in rent escrow processes. The Division also is working closely with the Court's Assisted Self-Help Center and the Moritz College of Law to expand information available to self-represented parties.

SPECIALIZED DOCKETS

The mission of the Specialized Docket Department is to enhance public safety, rebuild lives, and reduce recidivism through restorative justice.

The vision of the Specialized Docket Department is to maintain accountability for criminal actions while linking participants to behavioral health treatment providers, encouraging independent recovery, providing trauma competent services, and directing participants to engage with appropriate service providers. Our goal is to become a model for the state and to advance the mission of restorative justice.

In 2015, specialized dockets served six hundred forty six participants and became a formal department in the courthouse. The department has expanded both the number of citizens served and the number of employees and judges needed to serve the participants.

As a result of Court Order No. 05-2014, which increased the Specialized Dockets Fee from \$1.00 to \$3.00, effective September 1, 2014, the court revenue increased the specialized docket fund by \$200,000. This enabled the department to grow to ten full-time employees. In 2015, four new employees were hired and one new position was created. Each staff member has a separate office to ensure confidentiality. The 12th floor now houses all ten employees and three of the four specialized docket judges.

Paige Allen, LISW, LICDC-CS, was hired as the Specialized Docket Manager in March 2015. With the establishment of a department manager, staff supervision has become more structured and consistent. Each staff member collaborates with the supervisor to establish an annual supervision contract with goals for the year. Staff receive monthly, documented, individual supervision and attend a monthly department staff meeting on the first Friday of each month.

Federal confidentiality and documentation ethics are now standard in the department. The diagnostic assessment tool has been expanded to include additional information to screen for human trafficking and military service. The Release of Information form now meets clinical standards. Defendants provide written agreement to be assessed. All confidential documents are scanned into a protected computer file and the originals destroyed.

The qualifications of the staff have increased to reflect the growing evidence-based practice approach to restorative justice. Eight of the ten staff members are licensed in behavioral health, and five staff members hold an advanced degree in behavioral health or criminal justice.

With the increase in staff education and licensure, the department has established a student internship program. Licensed staff provided field instruction and internship supervision for five students in 2015. This contributes to

generating highly skilled future professionals. Terry Sims, a master of social work student, developed a participant satisfaction survey pilot project that is now being reviewed by the Supreme Court of Ohio as a potential model for the state.

The specialized docket bench increased from two judges to four judges. Three of the five dockets were either certified or recertified by the Supreme Court of Ohio. All four of the judges are deeply committed to the populations they serve.

Judges and staff have provided approximately thirty local, state and national trainings on the topics of trauma, human trafficking, opiate use, and restorative justice. In addition to providing community education, media coverage of the specialized dockets has ranged from local 10TV, to the national program, 60 Minutes.

Judge Paul Herbert received a national award from the U.S. Department of Justice in recognition of his efforts in combating the human trafficking cycle. He is the only judge in the nation to have received the Award for Professional Innovation in Victim Services.

Programs

Opiate Extension Program (OEP)

The mission of OEP is to address the needs of the target population to establish effective treatment as an alternative to incarceration, to improve the quality of life, and to increase the safety of the community by providing Court oversight and linking defendants to appropriate treatment and service providers.

OEP evolved out of ADAP long-term with the increase in opiate addiction. 66% of referrals are felony offenders from the County Prosecutor's office. OEP utilizes Vivitrol, Suboxone, and Methadone via the Addiction Treatment Program (ATP) project to medically assist those dependent on opiates.

2015 Accomplishments

- OEP served 66 participants in 2015.
- Of the 170 referrals to OEP, 68% came from the prosecutor's office and represent felony referrals.
- Shanequah Gaiter, LCDC III, transitioned from CATCH Coordinator to OEP Coordinator.
- Jessica Rathkopf, MSW, LSW, was hired to the newly created position of OEP Community Support Coordinator. Jessica holds a Master of Social Work degree and a Social Work license which gives her a mental health and addictive illness scope of practice.
- The Medication-Assisted Treatment Drug Court Program (ATP) has moved from a pilot project to a two-year cycle with funding provided by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. This grant funds medically assisted treatment for opiate users who have no other means to pay for medication. The web-based data collection system, TRI-CEP, is being utilized to collect information for the ongoing research portion of the grant.

Alcohol and Drug Addiction Program (ADAP)

ADAP addresses the needs of defendants, whose primary dependency on alcohol or drugs, other than opiates, results in criminal charges, including low-level felonies. The mission of ADAP is to address the needs of the high risk/high need target population to establish effective treatment as an alternative to incarceration, to improve the quality of life by addressing underlying addictive illness and requiring compliance with treatment and monitoring.

2015 Accomplishments

- ADAP served fifty four participants in 2015.
- Ashley Schmidt obtained her Chemical Dependency license and was given a raise to add the responsibility of ADAP Community Support Coordinator to her job description.
- Dan Spatholt voluntarily initiated the Student Internship Program and served as the 2015 Student Coordinator.

Mental Health Program

The Mental Health Program is a court program. If a case is accepted into the Mental Health Program, the defendant will have to enter a guilty plea to their charge(s), be sentenced, and follow all the rules of the Mental Health Program as a term of their community control. In some circumstances, successful completion of the program may result in the charges being dismissed.

The Mental Health Program has a Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) with many successful community service agencies including Southeast Mental Health, North Central Mental Health, North Community, Access Ohio, and Concord Counseling.

2015 Accomplishments

- The Mental Health Program served seventy participants in 2015.
- Judge David Tyack has the judicial responsibility of the Mental Health Program.
- The program was re-certified by the Supreme Court of Ohio.

Military and Veteran Services (MAVS)

The mission of MAVS is to promote effective treatment as an alternative to incarceration, to improve the quality of life, and to increase the safety of the community by providing court oversight and linking participants with appropriate treatment and service providers. Qualified defendants have been charged with misdemeanor offenses and exhibit symptoms of mental health and substance abuse disorders following active duty in any branch of the United States Armed Services. MAVS emphasize motivation, desire to change, and desire to engage in treatment with VA or Vet Center. Participants are assigned a mentor to use as a resource.

A strong team that understands the issues that a veteran may be struggling with, such as substance addiction, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Military Sexual Trauma supports the MAVS participants. MAVS is familiar with the Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Benefit Administration, State Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Service Organizations, and volunteer Veteran Mentors.

2015 Accomplishments

- MAVS served forty one participants in 2015.
- Judge Ted Barrow has judicial responsibility for the MAVS program.
- Kristen Kelly, Coordinator, obtained her LPCC license which provides an independent mental health scope of practice.
- The program was certified by the Supreme Court of Ohio.
- The Military Mentorship program was established, and there are currently three mentors.
- Mikel Ryuho Monnett is the volunteer mentor coordinator. He and the MAVS team attended the V2V military culture and mentorship training.
- Mike Brown shifted his Community Support Coordinator responsibilities from ADAP to MAVS. As a veteran, he is a perfect fit for the military service court.
- Laura Parsons became the full-time probation officer for MAVS.

CATCH (Changing Actions to Change Habits)

CATCH will address the needs of defendants who have been charged in the Franklin County Municipal Court with prostitution, solicitation, loitering to solicit, or other offenses if the defendant has a history of being a victim of human trafficking. The mission of the CATCH program is to establish an integrated approach to meet the treatment, health, and behavioral medication needs of those defendants. CATCH emphasizes community. Participants often refer to each other as “sisters” and the “CATCH family”.

Freedom a la Cart is a local anti-trafficking non-profit. It provides auxiliary services to CATCH Participants. These services include volunteer mentors that provide emergency items like toiletries and clothing, a weekly lunch before Court, social outing the last Thursday of the month, and seasonal celebrations such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, and an annual graduate retreat.

2015 Progress

- CATCH served thirty six participants in 2015.
- Hannah Estabrook, LPCC-S, was hired as the Coordinator. She is a trauma specialized with professional expertise in human sex trafficking.
- Keturah Schroder was hired as the Community Support Coordinator. Before becoming part of the CATCH team, Keturah was the executive director of Freedom a la Cart, the anti-trafficking non-profit that supports the CATCH participants through mentorship and supported job training and employment.
- Gwen England was hired as the full-time probation officer for CATCH participants. This represents an increase from twenty hours a week to a full-time probation position.

CATCH 101 was established to serve the broader courthouse and to provide education on human sex trafficking, community resources, and specialized dockets to defendants who may have been exposed to sex trafficking. Hannah has been certified to provide continuing education credits for trauma trainings. She has provided several free community trainings.

CHAT House, an ADAMH funded sober house, dedicated to CATCH participants, increased census to twelve women and increased retention rates of residents.

CATCH 101

Established in 2015, CATCH 101 is a 3-day introduction to Human Trafficking. It is held the second Tuesday of each month, from 1:00pm-3:30 pm, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in Courtroom 12C. The program includes education, community resources, and an observation of CATCH's status review hearing.

The education component focuses on human trafficking, addictive illness, trauma bonding, and recovery opportunities. Representatives from community partners such as Salvation Army, Amethyst, and law enforcement will present on current community resources available to defendants including case management and hotline numbers.

Judges and attorneys refer defendants who are not interested in the 2-yr CATCH commitment to CATCH 101. CATCH staff track attendance and report back to the referral source.

ADAP 101/201

ADAP 101/201 served Three hundred and seventeen participants in 2015. ADAP-101/201 is an educational program that provides expedited Court arraignments and prosecution, as well as a reduction in jail time. Participants who have 4th and 5th degree felony drug possession charges are identified by the County Prosecutor's Office and referred to the program. The felony charges are reduced to a first degree misdemeanor in exchange for the defendant's guilty plea. The majority of referrals are from the County Prosecutor; admission is also open to defendants charged with misdemeanors. ADAP-101 or ADAP-201 is ordered at the time of sentencing.

Forensic Services

Chris Boyd, with help from Ashley Schmidt, manages the logistics for all competency screenings, assessments, probate commitments, and restorations for the entire municipal court. Chris estimates that 75% of his 40 hour work week is spent addressing some aspect of competency.

The Court ordered forensic evaluations on 200 defendants in 2015.

The Court referred 15 defendants to Twin Valley Behavioral Health for inpatient restoration in 2015.

The Court referred 5 defendants to CSN for out-patient restoration in 2015.

The Court referred 38 defendants to Probate Court for involuntary commitment in 2015.

2015 Statistics

In 2015, the five certified specialized dockets and two educational programs served a total of 646 participants. The specialized docket participants who were discharged between July 1, 2016, and December 31, 2015, had recidivism rates of 0-25% depending on the program.

Program (Five Specialized Dockets & Two Education Programs)	2015 Total Participants Served	*No New Charges
Mental Health	70	75%
CATCH- Human Trafficking	36	77%
Military and Veterans	41	100%
ADAP- Alcohol and Drugs	54	84%
Opiate Extended	66	90%
ADAP 101/201 <i>EDUCATION</i>	317	N/A (Educational)
CATCH 101 <i>EDUCATION</i>	62 (NEW in 2015)	N/A (Educational)
Total	646	-----

*Percentage of participants, who were discharged (successful, neutral or unsuccessful) between 7/1/15-12/31/15, who did NOT recidivate (received no new charges) during the entire time they were enrolled in the specialized docket (up to two years).

2016 GOALS

- Re-Certify OEP, ADAP and Mental Health dockets judges and programs. Judge David Tyack now presides over OEP and ADAP. Judge Cindi Morehart now presides over the Mental Health Program.
- Review specialized docket programs and adhere to the judicial structure of a specialized docket as outlined by the Supreme Court of Ohio.
- Implement feasible evidence-based practices from the NADCP Best Practices II document.
- Pilot promising practices as appropriate.
- Establish a data collection system, operational definitions for statistics, and generate meaningful statistical reports for staff, judges, funders, and education and research purposes.
- Continue the Student Internship Program with Chris Boyd serving as the Student Coordinator.
- Mobilize the Advisory Board to broaden community support of the specialized dockets.
- Explore funding opportunities to expand the department and the programming.
- Explore the scope to advocate for restorative justice on a state and national level using the work of the FCMC Specialized Docket Department as a model of support for other communities.

- The MAVS team will attend the Veteran's Treatment Court Domestic Violence Program sponsored by the Veteran's Administration.
- Judge Paul Herbert and Michele Worobiec will present on trauma and human trafficking at the national NADCP 2016 conference.
- Manage OEP interview with CNN.
- Develop a specialized docket website.
- Explore consultant support for department branding and strategic planning.
- Continue to build strong community relationships with Franklin County Commissioners, Columbus City Council, County Prosecutor, OhioMHAS, ADAMH, Stepping Up project, the Attorney General's Office, and Supreme Court. Continue to collaborate with community treatment and housing providers.

Building and Zoning 2015 Annual Report

Building and Zoning Services 2015 Annual Report

The Department of Building and Zoning Services ended the year on solid ground financially. Revenue from operations ticked up slightly by 2% to end the year over \$19 million. The revenue increase was driven by robust permitting activity throughout 2015. Overall, permits rebounded from a modest downturn in 2014. At the close of 2015, permits had increased more than 3.5% from the previous year, totaling more than 42,000 issued.

Consistent with recent trends, residential permitting saw the largest increase in activity from the previous year. For 2015, residential permits increased by 7%, ending the year at nearly 26,000 issued. After plateauing for the previous few years, multi-family permits experienced a robust increase in 2015. Permitting volume for multi-family permits increased by over 8% from 2014, at nearly 5,000 permits issued. Commercial permits continued the leveling off trend of the last several years. At over 9,900 permits issued, commercial permitting activity edged down by 6% from 2014.

Online permitting continued to generate interest and saw increased activity consistent with the observable trend of the last 3 years. Overall, permits issued online grew by nearly 32% during 2015. Nearly 6,400 permits were issued through the online portal last year representing over 15% of the total permitting volume for the year. Further, of those permit types eligible, nearly 62% were purchased and issued online. This means when a customer is given a choice to purchase a permit online versus in person, they opt for the online service nearly twice as often. The Department believes that this is a meaningful statistic that foretells increased user adoption of online services as additional services are added to the online platform.

Similar to the striking rise in online permitting for 2015, additional inspection trip purchases online also increased over 32% from the 2014 total. More than 6,500 additional inspections were purchased online in 2015, which represented 45% of all additional inspections purchased throughout the year. Again, that number indicates that demand for online services is strong and will be well utilized as more online services are added. The additional inspection trips purchased online coupled with the permits issued online totaled nearly 13,000 transactions that did not require a trip to the Carolyn Avenue facility.

In 2015, applications to our Zoning section also exhibited strong year over year growth. Overall, zoning applications increased 17% from 2014. More than 140 applications were made to the Board of Zoning Adjustment, seeking variances, special permits, and appeals. Rezoning applications increased 5% to 66 for the year, while applications for Council Variances increased 20% to 79 for 2015. Applications to the Graphics Commission stayed relatively consistent at 48 for the year.

In the Site Engineering section, preliminary and final site compliance plans experienced similar growth shown in zoning applications. Submittals for 2015 increased nearly 14% from the previous year. Preliminary site plans totaled 229 for the year which represented a 28% increase from 2014. Although not exhibiting growth as strong, submissions for final site compliance ticked up by 9% for the year, at 633 applications made. Site Engineering applications, in addition to zoning applications, are indicators of future permitting and construction activity. With growth numbers both above 15% in 2015, future development and permitting activity appears strong.

The Building Compliance section opened, investigated, and responded to over 1,400 service requests in 2015. As a result of those investigations, over 800 notices of violation, unsafe, and emergency orders were issued throughout the year. Furthermore, the compliance section successfully closed more than 1,500 cases last year.

The Department of Building and Zoning Services has several key performance indicators by which success is measured. One indicator is that the Department is committed to performing an inspection within 1 business day of being scheduled. In 2015, the Department completed more than 87,000 building and trade permit inspections while meeting the 1 business day standard in 97% of all opportunities. The state standard for building plan review is 30 days. The Department completed its reviews within the 30-day standard nearly 97% of the time for the 15,000 plans reviewed. Another performance indicator is the MOU standard review time for site engineering applications. Initial applications are to be reviewed within 12 business days, and any subsequent review necessary within 6 business days. In 2015, of the more than 2,000 plans were routed and reviewed, 94% were done within the applicable MOU standard.

A final performance indicator the Department measures is customer wait times at our front desk. In 2015, over 47,000 customers were served. The average wait time for all visitors was 7 minutes and 44 seconds per transaction. Nearly half of all customers were served within 4 minutes.

In 2015, the Department of Building and Zoning Services hired a new Chief Building Official, Amit Ghosh, who brings a wide array of experience and expertise to the position. Upon his arrival, Mr. Ghosh has offered up several process improvements to be implemented in 2016. Chief among them are walk-through permits for commercial tenant improvements and after-hours plans review. Both endeavors should have a positive benefit for employees and customers alike.

Last year the Department also kicked off the electronic scanning and electronic plans review projects. The scanning project, with a targeted completion of 2016, began in the second half of 2015, with thousands of boxes categorized, indexed, and scanned into a document management system. When complete the project will provide a searchable database for nearly 6 million pieces of hard copy content.

The Department also began the discovery and development phases of an electronic plans review project, which will go live in several stages beginning in 2016. This project will allow the Department to review and mark-up plan submittals electronically. Eventually, due to electronic plan submissions and correspondence, all permit types will be available online, further increasing process efficiency and service delivery.

The Department of Building and Zoning Services is excited by the many projects underway in 2016. The Department will continue to expand online services through the addition of all mechanical, electric, and plumbing permits, which will be available during the first half of the year. Furthermore, the implementation of the walk-through permits and after-hours plan review will offer customers more choice and should drive more traffic online. And finally, the electronic plans review platform will fundamentally alter how design professionals and plans examiners interact, driving out inefficiencies and improving coordination.

The Department of Building and Zoning Services embraces the challenges that lie ahead. In 2016, the Department will build upon the groundwork of 2015 that will usher in significant process improvements. These changes will allow the Department of Building and Zoning Services to continue to offer quality services to the businesses and residents of the City of Columbus.

Equal Business Opportunity 2015 Annual Report

Equal Business Opportunity Commission 2015 Annual Report

The Mayors' Equal Business Opportunity Commission office (EBOCO) is responsible for ensuring compliance with Title 39, the City of Columbus' affirmative action program. When the program was created numerical goals for Minority and Female Owned Business Enterprises (M/FBEs) were established; however local and national legal challenges have resulted in the removal of the goals and EBOCO has since utilized race and gender neutral tools to encourage the utilization of M/FBEs. Those tools include an aggressive outreach program, technical assistance to bidders, bid specification review and participation on departmental evaluation teams and post award briefings.

Since 2000, despite the legal challenges, under the leadership of Mayor Michael Coleman the M/FBE program has evolved. In 2015 our professional service utilization of M/FBEs was over 25%. The city's overall utilization was just over 8.5% across all categories. Prior to the Coleman administration our city utilization rate barely reached 2%. While the city has had significant success in awarding contracts to M/FBE's we recognize the need to institutionalize our objectives and craft a program that is consistent with industry and legal trends in the Supplier Diversity arena.

As a part of the Small Business Initiative (SBI), the SBI team engaged all stakeholders, MBEs, FBEs, small and large business owners as well as other city leadership, including the City Council and our major contracting departments, Department of Public Utilities, Department of Public Service, Recreations and Parks, Department of Technology and Finance and Management. The Stakeholders participated in facilitated focus group sessions. The information gathered from the stakeholders group was used to make final recommendations to Mayor Coleman. Ultimately, our goal is to increase the number of city vendors/service providers thereby increasing the capacity and availability of our current targeted groups. The creation of the recommended small business program will also allow the city flexibility to use procurement tools such as goal setting and sheltered markets that are not currently an option. That means streamlining city bureaucracy, establishing specific small business goals, conducting aggressive outreach to potential bidders, and providing technical assistance to businesses owners who need it. EBOCO also recommends the incorporation of other supportive services that encourage the sustainability and growth of small businesses. The proposed small business program will utilize race and gender neutral procurement tools to expand the number of businesses that can successfully compete for city work and the capacity of our existing M/FBEs.

Utilization Snapshot

Total Payments: \$505,689,609
Prime Minority/Female Dollars: \$31,958,606
Sub Minority/Female Dollars: \$11,391,326
Total City Minority/Female: \$43,349,932
Overall Utilization Percentage: 8.57%

Construction:
Total payments: \$300,371,007
Minority/Female dollars paid: \$16,905,301
2015 percentage: 5.63

Goods & Services:
Total payments: \$136,590,971
Minority/Female dollars paid: \$10,225,364
2015 percentage: 7.49

Professional Service:
Total payments: \$68,727,631
Minority/Female dollars paid: \$16,219,267
2015 percentage: 23.6

City Attorney:
Total payments: \$766,604
Minority/Female dollars paid: \$12,498
2015 percentage: 1.63

City Auditor:
Total payments: \$2,952,729
Minority/Female dollars paid: \$220,703
2015 percentage: 7.47

City Council:
Total payments: \$63,636
Minority/Female dollars paid: \$2,656
2015 percentage: 4.17

City Treasurer:
Total payments: \$22,831
Minority/Female dollars paid: \$72
2015 percentage: 0.32

Dept. of Mun. Court-Clerk:
Total payments: \$943,439
Minority/Female dollars paid: \$87,539
2015 percentage: 9.28

Dept. of Mun. Court-Judges:
Total payments: \$971,822
Minority/Female dollars paid: \$48,153
2015 percentage: 4.95

City Report Highlights:

- * **Total Payments increased by \$31.7 million dollars in 2015 over 2014**
- * Minority and Female owned businesses received \$43.3 million dollars in 2015, compared to \$37.9 million dollars in 2014.
- * Professional Services utilization rate was 23.60% in 2015, compared to 25.2% in 2014.
- * Goods and Services utilization was 7.49% in 2015, compared to 5.71% in 2014.
- * Construction utilization was 5.63% in 2015, compared to 4.57% in 2014.
 - o However, overall construction payments increased by \$23.5 million dollars
- * **The Overall Utilization rate increased to 8.57%, compared to 8.02% in 2014.**

Special Projects:

Early Morning Software (EMS) – PRISM Compliance Management System – Citywide PAYMENT REPORTING SYSTEM – THE SECURE WEB-BASED PORTAL (PRISMCOMPLIANCE.COM)

- EBOCO coordinated efforts with DOT and EMS to complete this project. Although we encountered several challenges the Implementation team (EBOCO, DOT, and EMS) was able to successfully resolve them. EBOCO is excited about the new web based program and will allow more accurate reporting and easy accessibility for all city departments.
- EBOCO began Vendor outreach training – Summer/Fall 2015
- EBOCO partnered with Citywide Training to develop E-learning training video course

THE FEDERAL AGENCY: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE – MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (MBDA) GRANT

- The Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency began seeking applications in June-August of 2015, to establish/operate a Minority Business Enterprise Center and provide business consultation to eligible minority clients. According to MBDA, “Working through our network of business centers, MBDA strives to create a new generation of minority-owned businesses generating \$100 million in annual revenues.

- EBOCO's application strategically focused on maximizing job creation and global competitiveness for minority-owned businesses and to foster innovation and entrepreneurship with minority-owned businesses in high-growth industries".

State of Ohio Department of Administrative Services: Equal Opportunity Division CERTIFICATION RECIPROCITY AGREEMENT

- EBOCO's goal is to formalize reciprocal certification agreements with peer agencies when appropriate to increase the available pool of certified small, minority and women owned businesses
 - The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the process and procedures the Parties will follow in accepting reciprocal certifications for qualified applicants into their respective minority business enterprise programs.
 - Executed December 22, 2015.

Small Business Initiative

- SBE Mission: The proposed Small Business Enterprise (SBE) program will increase the viability of the Columbus economy by supporting the growth and development of SBE's. The program advances inclusion and diversity and that is representative of the City through sustainable and inclusive procurement.
 - SBI Team continued to work on best practices and implementation plans around the SBI initiative.
 - EBOCO continued to provide updates and data on how the proposed program will reach its targeted goals.

Department of Public Service - Sidewalk Maintenance Program

- The department of Public Service sent out hundreds of Notices of Violation to home owners due to investigation of complaints submitted through the City's 311 system identifying sidewalks and/or driveway approaches within the public right-of-way, abutting the property, having one or more defects that require repair or replacement in accordance with City Code section 905.11. These home owners are required to comply within 30 days of the notice or appropriate action will be taken.
 - EBOCO reached out to M/FBEs informing them of the program's objective and impending private contracting opportunities from homeowners that are in violation and required to repair their sidewalks and/or driveway, 30days from the notice. EBOCO also provided the exclusive list of official leads of those homeowners in violation. M/FBE's were successful in obtaining private contracting opportunities with homeowners.

Responsible Contracting - Construction Prequalification, Finance and Management

- Effective January 01, 2015 (per Section 329.21(g)); only licensed construction trade subcontractors prequalified responsible or prequalified provisionally responsible by bid due date may subcontract or perform on city construction service work.
 - EBOCO ensured that all M/FBEs were aware of the requirement and met the necessary requirements for prequalification
 - EBOCO reached over 100 small businesses through planned events and by partnering with groups such as The Elford Construction small business series, COMBA, The Women's Small Business Accelerator and the Asian American Commerce Group Economic Summit, Dehan Enterprises, and many one-on-one meetings with small business owners.

Poindexter Place Elderly Housing Construction Project

- Smoot/SIMCO, construction manager for the Poindexter Place Elderly Housing project in Columbus, Ohio, sought Section 3 eligible businesses to bid on this construction project. EBOCO partnered with Smoot/SIMCO -Building Poindexter Place – and assisted with outreach awareness by creating a solicitation and informing our EBOCO Database regarding Subcontracting Opportunities on this project and provided information regarding Section 3 compliance.

Monitoring and Reporting

ODOT – Ohio DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

- The City of Columbus is the Local Project Administrator for the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) funded projects. EBOCO's role is to monitor and report ODOT compliance regulations and

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) utilization goals; EBOCO reports findings to ODOT DBE Coordinator Jason Stith.

- **ODOT conducted 4 quarterly reviews** with EBOCO discussing ODOT compliance regulations and project updates
 - There were no major concerns for any of the other current projects.
- **ODOT successfully implemented Share Point**, a tracking system that EBOCO utilizes for reporting purposes.
- 2015 ODOT Funded Projects:
 - **Traffic Signal Installation System Phase B (Gudenkauf Corp): \$11,069,451.08**
 - COMPLETED. The targeted DBE goal of 8% participation was met by the prime contractor.
 - **Goodale/Olentangy Trail (The Shelly Company): \$4,908,253**
 - COMPLETED. The targeted DBE goal of 9% participation was met by the prime contractor.
 - **Scioto Greenways (Messer Construction): \$9,439,283.52**
 - CLOSE-OUT PHASE. The targeted DBE goal of 8% participation is TBD
 - **Traffic Signal Installation System Phase C (Gudenkauf Corp): \$8,533,201.37**
 - Began May 2015 - May 2016. The targeted DBE goal of 3% participation - No major issues reported.
 - **Fifth Ave Bridge Rehabilitation (Complete General): \$8,839,234.70**
 - Began July of 2015 - May 2016. The targeted DBE goal of 13% participation - No major issues reported.
 - **Hard Rd and Sawmill Rd (Shelly and Sands Inc): \$15,076,712.91**
 - Began June 2015 - September 2016. The targeted DBE goal of 8% participation - No major issues reported.

JOINT PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

- EBOCO promotes inclusion on major projects within the Private Sector by reviewing bid packages; developing outreach initiatives; and reporting project inclusion efforts.
- 2015 Public/Private Sector Projects:
 - **The Columbus Metropolitan Library Project (Pizzuti Co./Turner Construction): \$100,000,000**
 - Rebuilding/renovating nine (9) branches in five (5) years. Turner Construction is the Construction Project manager and Pizzuti Development is the owners' representative. The outreach plan was approved by the CML board for quarterly events. EBOCO assisted CML with promoting these outreach events to the minority and female business community.
 - **The Poindexter Place Construction Project (Ruscilli Construction): \$TBD**
 - Seeking Section 3 eligible businesses to bid on this construction project. EBOCO continues helping with outreach and E-mailing the EBOCO Database regarding Subcontracting Opportunities on this project. Also, attended the outreach event held September 2015

Pre- Construction Meetings

- EBOCO Specialist attends pre-construction meetings, a team-building process that provides an opportunity to continue learn project expectations; understand project commitments; establish overall project scheduling; defining roles/responsibilities including levels of authority; establish a line of communication; and facilitate problem solving between the City staff and the Prime contractor's team prior to the start construction projects. EBOCO's role is to inform contractors of City of Columbus compliance regulations and enforce EEO Guidelines.
 - EBOCO specialist attended over 210 Preconstruction meetings in 2015

Evaluation Team Meetings

- EBOCO Specialist serves on Evaluation Team committees in most city departments. The evaluation team is responsible for conducting a comprehensive review of bid submittals that scores proposals submitted by firms competing for city projects. EBOCO's participates in efforts to ensure fairness, equity and inclusion in the city's procurement process while helping city departments facilitate more equitable awarding of city contracts to minority and women owned businesses when appropriate.
 - EBOCO specialist were invited to participate in over 20 Evaluation team meetings in 2015

Supplier Diversity Programs

Contract Compliance REGISTRATION

- The Office of Contract Compliance (OCC) is responsible for ensuring that all city contractors have a valid Contract Compliance number. To receive this free two-year certification, a company must complete an application verifying that the company is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The application can be found at the Vendor Services link on the City of Columbus website
- OCC processed a total of 2662 Compliance Registrants –
 - In 2015, EBOCO completed: 1010 New Compliance applications and Recertified 1652 Compliance Registrants

MINORITY AND FEMALE OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE CERTIFICATION

- EBOCO offers a free gender and race based certification. Certifying Minority and Female owned Business Enterprises that are ready, willing, and able to perform on city contracts.
 - As of December 2015, EBOCO has a certified database of 418 – Total Certified Minority and Female Business Enterprises – Located Inside and Outside of the Metropolitan Service Area (MSA - Franklin, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Licking, Madison, Pickaway, and Union County)

Director to Business Forum

- Series designed to give M/FBEs an opportunity to share their perspective on industry trends and offer advice on how the city should respond. This roundtable structure allows EBOCO to identify the supplier's needs and consider them when developing future programs/services. The forum allow is a venue to gain pertinent information, best practices, and other tools to help businesses understand the City's purchasing process and facilitate equitable awarding of city contracts

THE QUARTERLY M/FBE ENGAgEMENT BREAKFAST MEETING

- The purpose of this meeting is to keep M/FBE stakeholders informed with EBOCO changes and up-to-date on city topics that potentially impact their business. Director Carter seeks to engage in dialogue regarding M/FBEs ability or inability to secure opportunities and provide an opportunity to discuss experiences/issues working with the city of Columbus. An underlying principle of this process is to positively impact the success of minority and small firms in our community; that can only be accomplished with MBE stake holder engagement and influence.

The City of Columbus Frederick J. Yates Jr. Memorial Scholarship

- This award, funded in part by proceeds from the Mayor's Small Business Conference, was created to honor the legacy of Frederick J. Yates, Jr., a long-time minority business advocate, entrepreneur, and former EBOCO Director. The awardee will receive full tuition to the Tuck Executive Education minority business program, "Building a High-Performing Minority Business", May 17-22, 2015 at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire.
 - The City of Columbus was happy to present the 3rd annual Frederick J. Yates, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Minority Business Award to **Haleema Shafeek, Owner-Designer of Green Office Furniture Solutions, LLC**

Contractor Assistance and Complaints

- EBOCO offers Prompt Payment/Contract Dispute Resolution developed to provide arbitration support for selected contracts or projects for certain disputes between or among contractors, vendors and the city. EBOCO also assist with payment procedures and develop in order to enhance a firm's ability to have the necessary liquidity to maintain operations.

Human Resources 2015 Annual Report

Human Resources Department 2015 Annual Report

The success of any organization is dependent upon its workforce. The City strives to provide a work environment that promotes workforce development, recognizes excellence within its personnel, and ensures fair and equal treatment to its employees, applicants and customers. The City recognizes that in order for Columbus to be America's Opportunity City, its' employees must be valued as an important asset.

To this end, the Human Resources Department's mission is to promote and support organizational excellence. We achieve our mission through effective human resources programming administered in an environment that embraces diversity, quality customer service and professional development.

In 2015, 46 employees (40 FT, 6 PT) fulfilled Human Resources functions related to Administration; Labor Relations; Occupational Health & Safety; Employee Benefits & Risk Management; The Office of Equal Employment Opportunity; Citywide Training and Development, Employee Resources, CHRIS and Compensation Management Programs.

Administration

Human Resources Administration worked extensively with the Mayor's Office, Department Human Resources professionals, Labor Relations and Employee Benefits to achieve the objectives of the 10 year reforms and efficiencies action plan through negotiated concessions in health care and pension contributions. HR Administration also partnered with our benefits consultant and all health insurance providers to implement programs and initiatives that enabled the City to achieve a rate of growth in insurance costs that was significantly below the national average. Other successes are detailed within the specific program areas that follow.

Labor Relations

The Labor Relations program area houses Labor Relations, the Tuition Reimbursement Program and the Drug Free Workplace Program (DFWP). The Labor Relations Section conducts grievance and disciplinary hearings for all AFSCME Local 1632, CWA Local 4502, FOP/OLC bargaining unit members (representing non-uniformed employees), and Management Compensation Plan employees within the City. Seventy-two (72) grievances were advanced to Step 2 of the grievance procedure by the unions. There were one hundred thirty-six (136) disciplinary cases answered or settled and thirty-nine (39) fitness for duty hearings conducted.

Negotiations were concluded with the Fraternal Order of Police, Capital City Lodge No. 9 and with the International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 67 for contracts expiring in 2017.

The City is committed to the development of the workforce. In 2015, 453 tuition reimbursement applications were processed.

Drug Free Workplace Program

The DFWP is managed by the Drug and Alcohol Coordinator (DAC). This program oversees drug and alcohol tests of City employees in six categories: reasonable suspicion, random, post-accident, return to duty, follow-up and pre-employment testing. The program is also responsible for the development and implementation of the City's policies and procedures for a drug free workplace. The DAC designs and coordinates the training of all employees regarding DFWP.

Nearly 2,340 tests were conducted in the above-mentioned categories in 2015. Education efforts continued in the following areas: New Hire Orientation, Frontline Supervision and division specific trainings.

Citywide Occupational Safety and Health Program (COSHP)

During 2015 COSHP donated a significant portion of time to the City's participation in the Bureau of Workers' Compensation Industry Specific Safety Program and the Drug Free Safety Program (BWC DFSP). In regard to the drug and alcohol specific program requirements, the team procured a credentialed instructor, assisted with material development, attended train the trainer courses, and provided numerous training sessions. In regard to the occupational safety components of the program, an incident investigation training course was created and provided to all supervisors city wide in a timely manner. Additionally, COSHP developed and implemented a systematic approach to ensuring the necessary incident investigations were completed, documented on the appropriate form, and submitted for data entry into the BWC's electronic system.

Significant staff support was provided to the Recreation and Parks in absence of their Safety Manager. In addition to continuing the daily activities, the COSHP team provided training, written programs, and developed site specific procedures with an emphasis on building maintenance activities.

COSHP also assisted R&P with several environmental programs at their park maintenance and golf facilities. Storm water pollution prevention plans (SWPPP) and spill prevention control and countermeasures (SPCC) plans were updated and are in the process of being developed if absent. Annual training requirements were also met.

Occupational Safety & Health Clinic

In 2015 the Clinic performed 11,678 services and 1,875 face to face patient encounters. These figures represent approximately a 25% increase in both categories from 2014's 9,274 services and 1,497 patient encounters, and more than double from the 5,395 services provided in 2010 during the first full year of operation. Vaccinations and respiratory clearances made up a large portion of the services, with 397 vaccinations and 1,337 respirator clearances performed in 2015.

The city departments that most utilize the OSHC are Public Safety, Public Utilities, Columbus Public Health, Recreation and Parks, Facilities Management, and Fleet Management. A large portion of the OSHC resources are directed toward the Public Safety Department. Respirator clearance is performed on every Columbus Police officer in a 2 year cycle. Clearances for the SWAT, Clandestine Lab and Dive Team are performed every year. Staff at the Police Fire Range and Police Crime Lab are given a baseline lead exam and then lead lab tests every 6 months, and the Fire Range officers are given annual audiograms. The OSHC provides medical coverage at Police Academy recruit training events including being present for boxing, hitman assailant, and ground wrestling events to triage and treat any injuries that occur. The OSHC also provides the recruits the Hepatitis B 3-vaccine series and immunity blood test. In addition to these services, police officers can participate in an incentive based fitness assessment at Mount Carmel Occupational Health Arlingate every year. The exercise physiologist offered extended hours from 4AM to 9PM and onsite testing at the Police Academy to facilitate the 1427 assessments that were performed in 2015.

Columbus Fire participates in annual physicals at Mt. Carmel Occupational Health Arlingate with 1392 physicals performed in 2015. These exams are comprehensive and include thorough history and physical, labs, hearing screen, vision screen, EKG, spirometry, and fitness VO2 assessment. A chest x-ray is provided every three years. The Mount Carmel exercise physiologist and physical therapists continue to provide teaching time to Fire Academy recruit classes for the Columbus Fire Core Strengthening Injury Prevention Program. Plus, the OSHC continues to provide the Hepatitis B 3-vaccine series and immunity blood test, and the Hepatitis A 2-vaccine series to each Fire Academy recruit class.

In addition to providing the above services, the OSHC has strived to offer motivation and support to employees for personal health, wellness, and safety. To accomplish this goal the OSHC staff has provided individualized voluntary wellness physicals, participated in numerous health fairs, tool box talks, training sessions, and site tours. In 2015 presentations were given on bloodborne pathogens, sun hazards, snow shoveling safety, and back health.

Employee Benefits/Risk Management

The Employee Benefits/Risk Management (EB/RM) program area continues to administer the city's workers' compensation, injury leave, short-term disability, unemployment compensation, and life insurance programs. In addition, EB/RM administers the employee health insurance and COBRA programs in accordance with applicable laws and/or negotiated union contracts. EB/RM is also responsible for the Healthy Columbus program and the city's wellness efforts.

In a collaborative effort with the City's Occupational Safety & Hygiene section, Bureau of Workers' Compensation and the City's MCO, workers' compensation claims have been strategically managed to reduce the number of days lost from work. These efforts, coupled with transitional work accommodations, resulted in a 63.7% reduction in lost days from 2014. Employee Benefits continues to work with various departments on the Transitional Work Duty program.

Risk Management participated in additional workers' compensation cost saving programs which resulted in refunds from BWC and the Capital Area Safety Council totaling \$418,567.35 in 2015. These programs include: Participation in the Handicap Reimbursement program; Subrogation of BWC claims; and protests of inaccurate claims rating analysis performed by BWC. Due to a significant change in the BWC billing process for Ohio employers, the city participated in the standard state fund program and received a credit of 50% of its regular premium contribution resulting in approximately \$8 million in 2015.

The Employee Benefits section continues to monitor the Affordable Care Act provisions and implement the required initiatives to remain compliant with the healthcare reform law. In compliance with the mandated employee and dependent coverage offering, health insurance coverage was offered all part time employees who met the eligibility requirement.

The Healthy Columbus program continues to provide employees with opportunities to improve their health through physical activity, tobacco cessation, healthy eating and disease management programs. The employee fitness center experienced a 40% increase in visits from 2014. In addition, 23 new group fitness classes were offered on weekly basis. The City saw a 30% increase in the number of employees and family members who participated as part of the Healthy Columbus teams for the Capital Half City Marathon events, Bike Columbus, the Heart Walk, or Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. Registrations for the annual Healthy Columbus 5K/1mile fun walk/run increased by 33% and employees lost 2,000 pounds during the annual 10 week wellness challenge. Partnerships with CoGo Bike Share, and the Department of Recreation and Parks, and a free bike fleet was available to employees.

One-on-one health coaching programs proved successful in 2015. The Quit for Life tobacco cessation program boasted a 57% quit rate (17% above the industry average). Other nutrition education events offered in 2015 included healthy cooking classes, farm stands selling local produce at numerous city locations, and continuing to provide education seminars to the City's refuse and street maintenance workers.

Over 1,700 employees participated in 34 Biometric health screenings in 2015. The increased screenings resulted in increased incidences of high blood pressure, body mass index and diabetes risk, and increased referrals for employees to manage their condition under the care of a primary care physician.

The free flu shot program for employees and family members was also continued; 2,384 employees and dependents were vaccinated, saving the City an estimated \$111,690 in direct and indirect costs.

Healthy Columbus also continued to partner with the City's Occupational Safety and Health Program on a variety of initiatives, including training employees to administer hands-only CPR and utilize the AED machines in the event of a cardiac emergency.

The Healthy Columbus program was the recipient of the Columbus Business First "Healthiest Employers of Central Ohio-Large Business" award, and the American Heart Association's Fit Friendly Company Gold Award.

Equal Employment Opportunity

In 2015, the City Equal Employment Opportunity Office investigated 6 formal EEO complaints filed out of the Department of Finance, Public Utilities and the Department of Technology. The EEO Office timely prepared and

filed the requisite EEO with the U.S. Department of Justice and continues to work with the developers of CHRIS to develop programs to facilitate the preparation of future government reports. The EEO Office, with the assistance of other members of the Human Resources Department, coordinated a successful 2015 Black History Month Celebration highlighting and celebrating the 50th anniversary of the signing of the federal Voting Rights Act. Professor Sharon L Davies, Executive Director, Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, The Ohio State University, was the featured speaker. In planning for the 2016 Celebration, "Make a Joyful Noise: A Celebration of Gospel Music" which highlighted the journey and relationship between gospel music and the civil rights movement, the office was able to obtain the commitment of Urban Strings Columbus, St. Dominic Gospel Choir, Capital University's Voices of Praise, and New Birth Christian Ministries.

Training and Employee Development

In 2015, CTD offered 472 classes in 226 different topic areas providing relevant training and development opportunities to 7,183 City of Columbus employees. CTD instructors trained 591 participants in Microsoft Office topics, 408 new hires in orientation, 435 participants in diversity and inclusion courses, 223 employees in American Heart Association CPR/AED Adult/Child/Infant certification and 280 employees in AHA First Aid Certification. The CPR/AED and First Aid courses alone saved the City over \$66,953 in instructional fees.

2015 was a ground breaking year for CTD. In partnership with the Drug & Alcohol Coordinator, EAP and SafeEX, the first Drug Free Safety Program eLearning course was designed, developed and produced. A total of 4,486 employees successfully completed the eLearning course.

CTD was granted \$25,000 in April 2015 from City Council to continue the highly success Small Business Training Program. A total of 34 companies participated in 42 mini seminars; 45 half-day seminars; 20 full-day courses including Microsoft Office courses; and 6 Conversational Spanish Level I sessions. CTD provided a total of \$9,172 in training to small businesses throughout the year.

Citywide Training conducted bi-monthly meetings with the Training Advisory Council consisting of HR designees from City departments; conducted an annual training needs assessment and a survey to Frontline Supervision graduates and successful supervisors across the City recommended by their HR Officers. These outreach efforts afforded CTD to encourage open lines of communication with City departments, design and deliver customized training programs and build solid working relationships and credibility.

CTD partnered with the Ohio Chamber of Commerce to offer CLE and HRCI accredited webinars. A total of 92 training participants took advantage of 16 live webinars offered in 2015. Citywide Training maintained partnerships with Franklin University, Columbus Area Labor Management Committee, Increase CDC and CME to provide various supplemental trainings to employees such as Financial Education, Business Writing classes, and Personal Management classes. The City's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides ongoing training in communication and employee relation skills via their own set of workshops and lectures. In addition to regularly scheduled classes in Supervision, Career Development, Sexual Harassment, Promoting Inclusion, and Violence in the Workplace, CTD offers a variety of safety courses such as CPR, First Aid and Armed Intruder, and Defensive Driving course.

CTD continued its partnerships in 2015 with several colleges and universities in the Columbus area and Columbus City Schools for the purpose of mentoring young professionals and high school students who are seeking a career in the Human Resources and Organizational Development fields. Students have been afforded opportunities to intern and/or participate in CTD facilitated class activities that demonstrate "real-life" experiences faced by the Training and Development professional. CTD also hosted a Restoration Academy participant providing valuable opportunities to practice customer relations, organizational, Microsoft Office, effective communication and general office skills. CTD is proud to say the Restoration Academy Participant is now a full time employee within the City.

Employee Resources

The Department of Human Resources, Employee Resources section, is responsible for the citywide coordination of the Operation Feed and Combined Charitable Campaigns. In 2015, City of Columbus employees donated \$179,792 to the Combined Charities Campaign and 369,197 meals to Operation Feed.

During the 2015 Employee Recognition Program 1,163 employees were recognized for longevity and an additional 645 individuals were recognized for safety initiatives, cost saving ideas, Skills Development, and Mayor's Award of Excellence achievement. This section also kept employees abreast of the latest resources, discounts, activities and events available to them by way of memos, posters, citywide voicemails, e-mails, newsletter articles and mailings.

Compensation Management

The Compensation Management section of the Department of Human Resources is responsible for the development, implementation and administration of compensation policies, procedures and strategies that promote the development of fair, equitable and market-driven compensation management systems. The section is also responsible for developing and managing effective performance management programs.

In 2015, the Compensation Management program area made significant contributions to the Citizens' Commission on Elected Official Compensation. Required by a 2014 City of Columbus Charter amendment, the five-member commission relied exclusively on the extensive research and subject-matter expertise of the Compensation Management program area to make informed decisions regarding future rates of pay for Columbus's elected officials.

Compensation Management also developed a plan for the U.S. Department of Labor's proposed changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act overtime provisions. As a result of the changes, the City of Columbus will be required to modify the overtime-exempt status of several classifications, create new pay plans, and monitor exempt employee pay approaching the salary threshold.

Columbus Human Resources Information System (CHRIS) Office

The CHRIS reimplementation project is progressing. The review and analysis of the system design, set-up, customizations and security structure to identify opportunities for more effective and efficient use of the Lawson tools and technical resources are completed. The project timeline, charter development, implementation and training plans are completed. CHRIS security redesign based on Xerox best practices continues, as well as training for the project team on the latest version of the Lawson Human Resources Suite. HR, Civil Service, DoT and the City Auditor continued collaborative efforts towards integrating critical functions in each of the referenced departments into a single system to achieve greater efficiencies.

Education 2015 Annual Report

Department of Education 2015 Annual Report

Mission Statement

The mission of the Columbus Department of Education is to enable all Columbus children to succeed in America's Opportunity City. Columbus enjoys a vibrant and growing economy with a diverse population and should be matched by a highly-skilled, creative, entrepreneurial workforce. The Department will make sure that all Columbus children have the skills needed to propel our economic growth in the 21st century. We will work collectively and strategically to assure that:

- Every Columbus child is kindergarten ready
- Every school has outstanding teachers and school leadership empowered to make school-based decisions
- Every child's classroom has the capacity to support state of the art teaching tools and materials
- Every child attends a high performing school
- Every student is given pathways to college and career
- Our community embraces the well-being of all our children.

Recognizing that Columbus will never reach its full potential until the PreK-12 education available to all our children matches our world class higher education system, then Mayor Michael B Coleman and Council President Andrew J. Ginther created the Department of Education. The Department is charged with examining the challenges and opportunities facing all students living within the Columbus City Schools boundaries, from preschool to career, and making specific recommendations to build capacity, communicate to stakeholders and work collaboratively to drive policy challenges.

2016 Planned Activities

The following initiatives will be completed by the Department over the course of the year. These initiatives are categorized by Columbus Covenant Goals.

1. Neighborhoods

The totality of the work of the Department will ensure that all students are future ready with resources aligned to serve high-needs neighborhoods. Early Start Columbus, a mayoral high quality prekindergarten initiative that increases access to early learning for 4-year-olds, will continue with a specific focus on high-needs neighborhoods and families. This was determined by taking inventory of early learning providers by neighborhood, evaluating census data, and mapping areas of the city where children score below average on the state's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA). Through Early Start Columbus, the Department provides funding for only the highest quality prekindergarten programs in the highest-need communities.

Through a partnership with Columbus City Schools, the Department will provide funding to serve more than 200 children from the Linden community—one of our highest-need communities—in high-quality prekindergarten programs. The former Linden Park Elementary School will be repurposed to house both community-based providers and Columbus City Schools. In addition to early learning programs, this collaborative neighborhood center will provide services identified through community outreach to parents, families, teachers, and community members.

In 2016, the After School Grant Program application will implement a new accountability process that aligns neighborhood needs with the Department's mission. The Department will administer the program to provide safe afterschool environments for Columbus students that supplements their education and health after the school day ends.

2. Safety

Early educational interventions are among the most cost-effective models for ensuring student success and safety. Research shows that children who attend high quality early learning programs are less likely to be involved in violent crime, arrested, or incarcerated down the road. Interventions later in life—while still beneficial and important—come at a higher cost to the public, but more importantly, represent a potential loss of human capital.

Investing in high-quality early education ensures that all children enter kindergarten ready to learn and levels the playing field to give them the chance to succeed in life. As they make their way through middle school and enter their teenage years, helping students stay on track to high school graduation becomes critical. With that in mind, specific requirements of Early Start Columbus identify and provide support to students with assessments and health screenings.

In 2016, all After School Grant program providers are now tracking their information through the Partnership4Success initiative. In order to support collective impact, consistent data are needed to set baseline measures and track progress over time. This data will be used to measure critical outcomes and set goals for continuous improvements for participants and programs. This data provides insight to early warning indicators of attendance, academics and discipline so that targeted interventions can be identified and implemented. After school programs that provide safe places for youth will also provide critical educational interventions. The social behavioral impact of having a positive, caring and competent adult during non-school hours who teaches and reinforces a positive growth mindset is of the utmost importance in crime prevention.

3. **Education**

Driving education policy in a large complex public school district with a seven-member elected school board requires relentless focus on student achievement. Parents, educators, business and civic leaders have demanded a “stacked hands” approach so that every child is future ready. With that in mind, the Department helped to establish FutureReady Columbus to “lead the drive for educational excellence within Columbus, leveraging all available public and private support and participation.” The Department has tasked FutureReady Columbus with developing a kindergarten readiness success strategy that focuses on pre-kindergarten awareness, pre-kindergarten expansion, pre-kindergarten research and a universal prekindergarten funding strategy.

In 2016, the Department sought feedback from providers, and changes were made to acknowledge their recommendations. The Early Start Columbus grants will deliver funding using the braided model to invest in high-quality prekindergarten. This change will allow the City to maximize other public early childhood dollars while serving more children. The Department will continue to work with stakeholders to determine the most efficient and effective delivery system so that every 4-year-old in the City of Columbus has access to a high-quality prekindergarten education.

The City of Columbus Department of Education has engaged with a third-party, nonprofit organization to conduct math and reading assessments to prekindergarten students enrolled in Early Start Columbus. These assessments will provide longitudinal data and will track students from prekindergarten to third grade. The City is partnering with Learning Circle Education Services to evaluate the efficacy of the program, and the collected data will provide guidance for future funding. Additional support may be asked of the community once the data is gathered to show the impact of a high quality pre-kindergarten experience.

The Early Childhood Teacher Preparation Pipeline Scholarship is a partnership between the City of Columbus, The Ohio State University College of Education and Human Ecology, Columbus State Community College and Action for Children to increase the educational attainment of existing prekindergarten employees. This collaborative will provide scholarships to help early childhood educators who hold associate’s degrees earn bachelor’s degrees in early childhood education. Graduates would agree to spend at least three years in a Columbus school classroom or early childhood education setting. Currently, in Franklin County approximately 20 percent of prekindergarten classrooms that are rated high

quality according to the State of Ohio's Step Up to Quality rating system. Increasing the quality of the teacher is a systematic, long-term investment that helps early learning providers, families, children and neighborhoods.

In collaboration with Columbus City Schools, the City of Columbus Department of Education will hold a Pre-K Connection Fair in spring of 2016. The purpose of the fair is to educate parents about free and low cost high quality prekindergarten options and the importance of high-quality prekindergarten experience for their children. The fair will be open both to community-based providers and local educational agencies. The Department has also commissioned research to determine the cost of providing universal access to a high-quality pre-kindergarten education for every 4-year-old in Columbus. This research will examine how to leverage all existing resources, determine capacity, and identify gaps that currently exist.

4. Economic Development

The Department will continue to look to find ways to strengthen career pathways for all children within Columbus City Schools. Providing experiential educational opportunities outside of the classroom help to encourage future job attainment. Providing the region with a workforce that is future ready is critical to the work of the Department. The Department will also work to increase the opportunities for students to receive education and work opportunities at successful career centers and in high school buildings.

2015 Accomplishments

The following list outlines the major initiatives that were successfully completed in the past year. The initiatives are categorized by Columbus Covenant Goals.

1. Neighborhoods

A child's ZIP code should never determine his or her destiny; but today, the neighborhood in which they grow up impacts their odds of graduating high school, having healthy lifestyles, and a lifetime economic opportunities.

The Department's strategic expansion of prekindergarten is focused in part in examining communities with the highest needs and the lowest capacity. This involved taking an inventory of early learning providers by neighborhood, evaluating census data, and mapping areas of the city where children score below average on the KRA to help determine areas of highest need. A functioning database on availability and capacity of childcare and preschool resources by community was developed.

With this data, the Department of Education worked with the City of Columbus Planning Division to create logistical maps that help visualize the needs assessment data. Through this map and input from the early education community and Columbus City Council, the Department was able to gain a better understanding of where the isolated or hard-to- reach families are located and began to strategically fund high-needs, low-capacity areas through Early Start Columbus.

In the last two years, Early Start Columbus created more than 1,000 early education opportunities in high-quality, full-day prekindergarten.

2. Safety

At-risk children and those from low-income backgrounds without access to quality early learning experiences are more likely to be involved in violent crime, arrested, or incarcerated down the road. Investing in high-quality early education ensures that all children enter kindergarten ready to learn and levels the playing field to give them the chance to succeed in life. As they make their way through middle school and enter their teenage years, helping students stay on track to high school graduation becomes

critical. With that in mind, specific requirements of Early Start Columbus identify and provide support to students with assessments and health screenings. By providing a high-quality pre-kindergarten education to more than 1,000 Columbus children over the last two years, we have greatly increased the likelihood that they will succeed in school—and in life.

3. Education

Through Early Start Columbus, the After School Grant Program and FastPath, the Department of Education worked to increase the educational attainment of Columbus residents. Early Start Columbus provided an early education to more than 1,000 four year-olds and served more than 2,500 children in after school programs. FastPath provided a post-secondary education for 258 Columbus citizens needing crucial employment skills.

Since educational outcomes play a significant role in assessing the well-being of our community, the Department also provides support to other initiatives as it pertains to health, planning, workforce and economic development and safety.

4. Economic Development

FastPath, a workforce development program that is collaboration between the City of Columbus and Columbus State Community College has worked with neighborhood partners on the Eastside to identify participants for the program. During the last two years, FastPath provided critical education and employment services for 258 unemployed or underemployed Columbus citizens.