KLEIN HOLDS PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS GRAFFITI: Columbus City Councilmember Zachary M. Klein, Chair of the Development Committee, will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers to discuss graffiti and proposed legislation that will increase the penalty for those found guilty of graffiti and additional requirements for property owners to remove graffiti in a timely manner.

INSTALLING ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHTING IN COLUMBUS FIRE STATIONS: Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, the city of Columbus was awarded funding from of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program. Public Safety Committee Chair Michelle M. Mills is sponsoring two pieces of legislation that will enable Columbus Fire Stations to be more energy efficient. Ordinance 0546-2011 will authorize the expenditure of $55,000.00 for the design and construction of interior energy efficient lighting upgrades for Columbus Fire Stations and ordinance 0547-2011 will authorize the expenditure of $595,000.00 for the renovation for energy efficient interior lighting at five Columbus Fire Stations. Last year, eleven Columbus Fire Stations were renovated with energy efficient interior lighting through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program.

IMPROVING COMMUNICATIONS TO HELP PROTECT CITIZENS: Columbus Public Health is responsible for the long-term continuing health protection and terrorism preparedness for Central Ohio residents. The Public Health Emergency Preparedness program establishes the Franklin County/City of Columbus support network that would be activated in the event of bioterrorism incident. Health, Housing & Human Services Committee Chair Hearcel F. Craig is sponsoring two ordinances that will enhance mass communications among the support network in the event of an emergency. Ordinance 0556-2011 will authorize the expenditure of $172,516.00 for contracts with The Columbus Medical Association and Battelle Memorial Institute and ordinance 0564-2011 authorizes the expenditure of $160,845.00 for contracts with Everbridge, an incident notification system and Ologie, LLC., marketing consultants for the assessment and development of a county-wide communication infrastructure. The system would provide universal communications ability to all physicians, first responders and stakeholders in the event of an emergency.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK: Residents of Central Ohio have long been committed and active volunteers in their communities, with the support of countless agencies and organizations dedicated to promoting the common good. Columbus City Councilmember Priscilla R. Tyson is sponsoring resolution 0052X-2011, to recognize April 10th- April 16th as National Volunteer Week and thank Columbus residents for their participation in helping build strong, vibrant neighborhoods and improve their communities through volunteering. For more information on National Volunteer Week and a list of volunteer opportunities residents can visit www.handsoncentralohio.org.
SUPPORTING THE JACKSON PIKE URBAN PAVEMENT PROGRAM: The Ohio Department of Transportation and the city of Columbus are working together to improve local roadways. Public Service Committee Chair Eileen Y. Paley is sponsoring ordinance 0315-2011 to authorize the expenditure of $46,944.00 from the Streets and Highways Governmental Bonds Fund for an Urban Paving Project on SR 104 in collaboration with the State of Ohio. The project will resurface 1.44 miles of State Route 104 and include various bridge work between Frank Road and Dyer Road (Columbus corporation line).

MILLER HOLDING TECHNOLOGY & TRADE COLLEGE DAY: Careers in the field of technology remain one of the fastest growing employment opportunities in Columbus. In an effort to raise awareness about those career opportunities, Councilmember A. Troy Miller is hosting a Technology & Trade College Day on Saturday, April 30, 2011 from 12:00 – 4:00 pm. The event will be held at Barack Recreation Center, 580 Woodrow Avenue and feature representatives from local technology schools, trade schools, and the military branches for students and adults to learn about job and internship opportunities. For more information regarding the event click here.