



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For Immediate Release:

April 22, 2013

For More Information:

John Ivanic, (614) 645-6798

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

INCREASING ENERGY EFFICIENCY: The City of Columbus strives to have the most energy efficient buildings possible to save money and reduce energy consumption. *Ordinance 0824-2013*, sponsored by Finance Committee chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#), authorizes the Finance and Management Director to modify a contract on behalf of the Office of Construction Management with Ameresco, Inc. for Professional Energy Services Company services. Ameresco has conducted an energy audit for Columbus at various City owned facilities and this ordinance will allow Ameresco to enter a second phase of the project to make improvements to reduce energy usage. Energy conservation measures include various retrofit improvements, building control upgrades, mechanical improvements, and water conservation measures to these facilities. The cost of this contract is \$1,435,845.

SUPPORT FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PROGRAM: Columbus Public Health's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program works to reduce alcohol and other drug abuse, addiction, and related problems in Columbus. The program's approach focuses on three key areas: prevention, intervention, and outpatient treatment. Technology Committee Chair [A. Troy Miller](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0791-2013*, for a software contract renewal that will allow the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program to continue making a positive impact in our community while ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Franklin County ADAMH Board and the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services.

CLEANING LAND BANK PROPERTIES: The Columbus Land Bank was established in 1994 to improve Columbus neighborhoods by returning vacant, abandoned and underutilized residential and commercial properties into productive community assets. *Ordinance 0817-2013*, sponsored by Development Committee chair [Zach](#)

[M. Klein](#), allows the City to enter into contracts worth a combined \$150,000 with various nonprofit organizations to provide maintenance and landscaping services for parcels owned by the Columbus Land Bank Program. This legislation will extend and increase contracts under this program, called the Community Land Care Program. Services include trash pickup, lawn mowing, landscaping, lot monitoring, seeding, and community garden support. Non-profits involved in the program include the Greater Linden Development Corporation, Franklinton Development Association, Central Community House, Community Development for All People, and Homes on the Hill Community Development Corporation.

KEEPING BASEMENTS DRY: Project Dry Basement is a program designed to eliminate sewer backups in single and two-family homes. Eligible homeowners can receive a backflow prevention device at no cost. Public Utilities Committee chair [Eileen Y. Paley](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0663-2013* to allow the City to enter into contracts with two companies, Capital Plumbing & Mechanical, Inc. and TFH-EB, Inc. (The Waterworks) to preform work related to Project Dry Basement. The competitively bid contracts are worth a total of \$458,238.

PROVIDING BETTER CRIME FIGHTING SOFTWARE: Safety Committee chair [Michelle M. Mills](#) is sponsoring two ordinances this week that will upgrade crime fighting technology for the Columbus Division of Police. The first legislation is *ordinance 0807-2013*, which will allow the City to continue to use and modify the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). AFIS technology gives officers and investigators the ability to record and store fingerprints during investigations. The cost of the contract with Morpho Trak is \$491,160. The second piece is *ordinance 0855-2013*, to renew a contract worth \$244,812 with Motorola for software and maintenance support for the Ohio Based Reporting System/National Incident Based Reporting System (OIBRS/NIBRS). This program helps local, state, and federal law enforcement track and analyze crime data statistics.