



## COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**For Immediate Release:**

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**SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH:** Small business development was a high priority in Columbus City Council's 2013 general fund budget amendments. Councilmember [A. Troy Miller](#), chair of the Small & Minority Business Development Committee, is sponsoring *ordinance 0979-2013* to spend \$20,000 from the City Council's Jobs Growth Fund to support the business development efforts of the University Community Business Association (UCBA). The UCBA was founded in December 1984 to address the economic development and sustainability concerns of businesses in the University District. Through organization and communication, the UCBA strives to be a collective advocate for business needs and an intermediary between the City of Columbus, Ohio State and other entities. The UCBA was also established to facilitate peer-to-peer business connections, market the attributes of doing business with the University District and provide a source of education for business owners through regular business forums.

**IMPROVING AREA ROADWAYS:** Road construction season is about to begin and the City of Columbus is moving forward with plans to repair or resurface 50 streets all around Columbus. Public Service and Transportation Committee chair [Eileen Y. Paley](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0937-2013* for Resurfacing 2013 Project 1. In addition to the repairs and resurfacing work, the legislation will also construct more than 500 ADA curb ramps, mill existing pavement, overlay with new asphalt concrete, and replace curbs. Where warranted the plans also call for areas of full depth pavement repair. The contract is being awarded to the lowest, responsible and best bidder, the Kokosing Construction Company, for \$5,708,504.56.

**FIGHTING DRUG ABUSE:** The Columbus Public Health Department has a number of programs that fight alcohol and drug addiction. *Ordinance 0930-2013*, sponsored by Health and Human Services Committee chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#), allows the city to accept a \$1,992,453 grant for the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Outpatient Program to fund the Adult Prevention Services, Women's Project, Children & Adolescents Prevention, the AOD/HIV Prevention Program, the Immigrant Women's Support Project, and the Application Purpose, Pride Services. These funds will enable the Health Department to continue to provide treatment, counseling and prevention services to men, women, children and families, and the homeless population, and to serve additional clients referred by the criminal justice system.

**INVESTING IN PLAYGROUNDS:** Councilmember [Zach M. Klein](#), chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee, is sponsoring three ordinances this evening that will create one park and improve two others. *Ordinance 0936-2013* authorizes the Director of Recreation and Parks to spend \$116,100 for shelter and playground installation for the new Cedar Run Park to be located in a housing subdivision between North Waggoner and Taylor Roads. The second ordinance, *0940-2013*, will provide \$180,000 for playground installation, landscaping, and asphalt work at Lincoln Park, 580 Woodrow Avenue. And the third piece of legislation, *0941-2013*, will allow the city to spend \$240,000 at Southeast Lions Park, 185 Barthman Avenue, for playground installation, and electric and roofing work. All contracts were competitively bid.

**TRAINING FIREFIGHTERS:** The Columbus Division of Fire is continually training fire personnel, and a grant from the Ohio Division of Emergency Medical Services will allow Columbus to purchase needed equipment. Councilmember [Michelle M. Mills](#), chair of the Public Safety and Judiciary Committee, is sponsoring *ordinance 0931-2013* to allow the Division to accept the \$2,500 grant to purchase CPR manikins for training purposes. The Division has received this grant each of the past 11 years and the equipment will be used by the Fire Division for paramedic training, including airway training, AED and EKG diagnostics, immobilization and extrication equipment, and mass casualty training.