



## COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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**CITY SAVINGS:** Finance Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#) is sponsoring four ordinances, 2933-2013 through 2936-2013, that will allow the City Auditor to renegotiate the interest rates on previously issued bonds that help sustain capital projects like the construction of buildings, roads, bridges, and provide for the purchase of safety equipment. Columbus has the opportunity to save up to \$3 million dollars in debt payments through the refinancing of four bonds worth \$167.7 million dollars.

**REDUCING INFANT MORTALITY:** Council President [Andrew J. Ginther](#) is co-sponsoring ordinance 2965-2013 to support the work of the Columbus Infant Mortality Reduction Task Force. The task force will take a holistic, data-based and community-driven approach to reducing infant mortality in our community. Created by Council President Ginther and comprised of public health experts, community leaders, and parents, the task force aims to reduce infant mortality in Columbus by forty percent and cut the racial disparity rate of infant mortality in our community by half.

**ANNUAL LIQUOR OBJECTIONS:** Each year, the City of Columbus has the opportunity to object to the renewal of certain liquor permits granted by the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control. Public Safety Committee Chair [Michelle M. Mills](#) will introduce resolutions 0272X-2013 through 0285X-2013 as part of the city's liquor objection process. City Council, the City Attorney, and the Division of Police work with community leaders to help advance public safety by presenting the resolutions of objection. The resolutions address liquor permit holders and establishments that have a documented record of liquor, code and health violations, criminal activity, excessive police runs and disregard for neighborhood safety. While state law does not grant cities the authority to revoke

or deny the renewal of liquor permits, the Columbus City Council exercises its right to submit formal objections to the Division of Liquor Control for consideration during their annual review of liquor permit applications. The Division has the sole authority to grant a renewal or uphold the city's objection. [Click here to read the Liquor Permit Objection Summaries.](#)

**SUPPORTING THE SOUTH SIDE:** The city's commitment to the revitalization of the South Side continues this week with ordinance 2924-2013, sponsored by Administration Committee Chair [Hearcel F. Craig](#). The legislation funds the continued development of the Southern Gateway Revitalization Project. The initiative is transforming the South Side with new housing, improved infrastructure, and new community health facilities like the John R. Maloney Family Health & Wellness Center. Additionally, the former Reeb Elementary School will house several organizations that provide vital social services to South Side residents. Councilmember Craig's ordinance funds the completion of the Southern Gateway community input and initiative implementation plan.

**REC CENTER IMPROVEMENTS:** Several Columbus recreation centers will be more comfortable places to learn and play thanks to Recreation and Parks Committee Chair [Zach M. Klein](#)'s ordinance 2950-2013, which funds HVAC improvements at the Douglas, Sullivant Gardens, Schiller, Blackburn, and Holton Recreation Centers. Douglas and Sullivant Gardens will have new air conditioning, while Schiller, Blackburn, and Holton will benefit from needed equipment replacement.

**SIDEWALK INVENTORY:** As chair of the Public Service & Transportation Committee, Councilmember [Eileen Y. Paley](#) supports sound transportation planning with an emphasis on safety and mobility options. She is sponsoring ordinance 2842-2013 to fund a joint project with the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission to produce a regional sidewalk inventory. The inventory will provide comprehensive data that will aid MORPC's safety programs and transportation planning, and will be done in time to supplement the ODOT/Columbus City Schools districtwide School Travel Plan that is currently being developed.