DNA TESTING: The Columbus Division of Police has been awarded funding to help reduce a backlog of DNA testing that needs to be completed at the crime lab. Ordinance 2294-2014, sponsored by Public Safety Committee chair Zach M. Klein, allows the City to accept a $282,452 grant from the National Institute of Justice. This federally supported program seeks to improve the infrastructure and analysis capacity of existing state and local crime laboratories that conduct DNA analysis so they can process DNA samples efficiently and cost effectively. Funds have been awarded for DNA equipment, analysis supplies, and overtime training for DNA analysts in the latest technologies.

2015 BUDGET ORDINANCES: Councilmember Priscilla R. Tyson, chair of the Finance Committee, will request that Council table four ordinances tonight pending Council’s public hearings on the mayor’s proposed 2015 general fund budget. Councilmember Tyson will host a public briefing from the administration on December 2nd and will then hold Workforce Development Committee and Health & Human Services Committee budget hearings on December 3rd. Ordinances 2620-, 2621-, 2622-, and 2623-2014 will be taken from the table and considered for a vote early next year, after Council has concluded its budget deliberations.

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY: Councilmember Michelle M. Mills, chair of the Environment Committee, is celebrating the 17th annual America Recycles Day, an event that raises awareness and educates residents about recycling. A presentation at tonight’s meeting will include a review of the first two years of the RecyColumbus residential recycling program, highlighting Columbus’s participation rate, which is far above the national average.

CONGRATULATING MR. CHRISTIE: Councilmember Eileen Y. Paley is sponsoring a resolution honoring outgoing Human Resources Director Chet Christie. Christie has been with the City since 2000 and is retiring November 30.