



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**For Immediate Release:
September 8, 2014**

For More Information:
John Ivanic, (614) 645-6798
[Web](#) – [Facebook](#) – [Twitter](#)

POLICING PARTNERSHIP: The Columbus Division of Police partners with The Ohio State University for a Crime Interdiction Security Initiative designed to make the area in and around campus as safe as possible. Ordinance 1862-2014, sponsored by Public Safety & Judiciary Committee chair [Zach M. Klein](#), allows the City of Columbus to use general fund dollars to support Columbus officers in this mission. OSU will reimburse the City of Columbus for all overtime and benefit costs for CPD officers who work on the initiative.

VAP INITIATIVE: Councilmember [Michelle M. Mills](#), chair of the Development Committee, is sponsoring 1909-2014 to authorize the Director of the Department of Development to increase purchase orders to pay costs associated with tax foreclosures as a part of the Mayor's Vacant and Abandoned Properties initiative and the Moving Ohio Forward grant program. In 2012, the Franklin County Treasurer, Franklin County Prosecutor, City Attorney, County Land Bank, and Land Redevelopment Office developed a process to expedite tax foreclosure cases for properties in need of demolition. The existing purchase orders will be increased by a total of \$65,000.

WIC FUNDING: Columbus Public Health has been awarded a grant from the Ohio Department of Health to fund the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) grant program, for the period of October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015. Councilmember [Priscilla R. Tyson](#), chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 1890-2014 to allow the City to accept and appropriate \$6,334,667 to provide food and nutrition education to eligible women who are pregnant or lactating, infants, and children at nutritional risk in Franklin County.

SUPPORTING CITIZEN SOLIDERS: The City of Columbus supports employees who are called to active military duty by providing military leave with pay and benefits. Councilmember [Hearcel F. Craig](#), a Vietnam-era veteran and chair of the Veterans Affairs Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 2008-2014 to ensure the extension of City-provided group health and life insurance to employees called to duty under the same terms and conditions currently in effect to City employees and their beneficiaries. The program was initiated by City Council after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

COMMUNITY MEETING: Council President [Andrew J. Ginther](#) reminds all Columbus residents that City Councilmembers will be holding another in a series of community meetings Wednesday, September 10, at The Ohio State University Airport, Don Scott Field, Hangar 1, located at 2160 West Case Road, from 5:30-7 pm. The community meetings are a chance for residents to discuss any subject matter they choose in an informal, one-on-one setting with councilmembers, their staff, and city department leaders.