



## COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**For Immediate Release:**

**June 16, 2014**

*For More Information:*

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**SAFETY CODE CHANGES:** Public Safety & Judiciary Committee chair Zach M. Klein is sponsoring ordinance 1229-2014 to increase penalties for many sex crimes and related criminal offenses while modernizing Columbus codes to match the Ohio Revised Code. The proposed changes were discussed at a [public hearing](#) held in May.

**KaBOOM!:** Recreation and Parks Committee chair Hearcel F. Craig is sponsoring ordinance 1342-2014 to allow the City to provide a \$20,000 grant to Habitat for Humanity, the fiscal agent for Carl Lee Family Services Council (FSC), for a KaBOOM! playground build in Milo-Grogan. The playground at 620 Gibbard Avenue will provide fun recreational opportunities to children and families in the neighborhood. Carl Lee FSC will maintain the playground, which will be free and open to the public.

**KICKSTART:** Small & Minority Business Development Committee chair A. Troy Miller is sponsoring ordinance 1367-2014, to allow Columbus City Council to enter into a \$110,000 contract with IT Martini, a local IT professional networking firm, for the planning and hosting of the 2014 KickStart marketplace product contest. The contest, a component of the KickStart business development initiative, will give entrepreneurs and inventors a chance to present their business ideas, concepts, and products to a panel of private investors in hopes of attracting start-up funding for their efforts.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** Columbus City Councilmember Michelle M. Mills, chair of the Education Committee, will hold a public meeting to introduce the city's new Department of Education and its personnel. The meeting will provide an overview of the department's functions and role, as well as an update on the department's current initiatives, including Early Start Columbus and Fastpath. The meeting begins at 5pm. Councilmember Mills will also hold a public hearing to discuss a proposed safe streets ordinance that would introduce new measures to protect bicyclists. The ordinance would amend Titles 21, 33, and 41 of the Columbus City Codes to incorporate best practices in bicycle safety in order to make bicycling in Columbus a safer and more attractive transportation option. The hearing begins at 6pm, provided that the business of the Education Committee has concluded.

**CELEBRATING PRIDE:** Council President Andrew J. Ginther is sponsoring resolution 0072X-2014, to recognize Stonewall Columbus for the organization's 33rd year of service to our community and to celebrate the 2014 Pride Parade and Festival. Stonewall Columbus was founded in June of 1981, on the 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the historic Stonewall Riots in New York City. Since its founding, Stonewall Columbus has provided programming and services that enhance the well-being and visibility of central Ohio's vibrant and diverse gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community.

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION:** The [Columbus Charter Review Commission](#) will hold its next meeting on Thursday, June 19, at 1pm in City Council Conference room 225, on the second floor of City Hall. All meetings of the Charter Review Commission are open to the public and are recorded for broadcast on CTV, Columbus' government channel on local cable systems.