



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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ENHANCING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE: Councilmember Shannon G. Hardin, the chair of the council's Public Safety & Transportation Committee, is offering ordinance 2933-2015 that would authorize the city to enter into a contract with Shelly and Sands, Inc. for the construction of intersection improvements at Gender and Refugee roads, a busy intersection in the Eastland area. The work includes widening Gender Road for additional through and/or turn lanes at the intersection and also widening Refugee Road. Also, the legislation would enhance other intersections including Gender at Upperridge, Countryview/Stirling at Refugee and Long at Refugee to do, among other things, signal construction, work on waterlines and storm sewers and pavement construction and resurfacing. The proposal earmarks \$5.7 million in connection with the work.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION: Councilmember Jaiza Page, the chair of the Education Committee, is offering ordinance 2752-2015. The legislation would allow the city to enter into contracts with the Columbus City Schools and Hilltop Preschool, which are Ohio Department of Education's Early Childhood Expansion initiative providers. The State of Ohio's Early Childhood Expansion (ECE) initiative provides part day prekindergarten programming. The Columbus Department of Education responded to community needs by identifying families and children who would benefit more from the ECE initiative by providing matching dollars for full day education. These matching funds will allow the Columbus Department of Education to expand access to education opportunities to low-income high-need families. Mayor-elect Andrew J. Ginther has made universal pre-k education for Columbus children a priority for his new administration.

PROTECTING SANITARY SEWERS: Public Utilities chair Zach Klein offers ordinance 2776-2015 that would allow the city to enter into a construction contract with Layne Inliner LLC, for the Blueprint Miller Kelton: Lining Project. The legislation earmarks \$4.9 million in connection with the project that will rehabilitate existing sanitary sewers with the Miller-Kelton area of the city, reducing inflow and infiltration to the city's sanitary sewer system. City officials say the project will help stem sanitary sewer overflows to basements and waterways in that area.

FAMILY TIES PROGRAM: Health and Human Services chair Priscilla R. Tyson is sponsoring ordinance 2963-2015, legislation that will allow the Board of Health to enter into contracts with Franklin County Children Services, the National Youth Advocate program and the Buckeye Ranch to continue the Family

Ties program, which helps reduce child abuse and neglect. The services that the board will be providing to FCCS clients include case management, nurses, social workers and respite workers.

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT: Environment Committee chair Fran Ryan sponsors ordinance 2925-2015. The proposal would allow the director of Development to enter into a Brownfield grant agreement, pursuant to the Green Columbus Fund, with Burwell Investments, LLC for redevelopment of the site at 115th E. 5th Ave. and the legislation would provide for spending as much as \$80,000 in order to remove underground storage tanks and do other work at the site. The Green Columbus Fund represents the city's commitment to foster sustainable building through the LEED certification and to foster sustainable Brownfield redevelopment.

HELPING VETERANS: Veterans' Affairs Committee chair Eileen Y. Paley offers ordinance 3037-2015, which would authorize the city to make financial assistance available through the Better Municipal Care for Veterans Home Fund, administered by the city Housing Division. The legislation would earmark \$315,378 in connection with the proposal. The funds would be used to provide financial assistance to homeowners that are eligible veterans or homeowners with an eligible veteran whose permanent address is the same as the homeowner's, but is not a rental tenant of the homeowner for necessary and prioritized home improvements.