



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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PRE-K EDUCATION: High-quality pre-kindergarten education services provide the foundation for life-long learning. Ordinance 0444-2015, sponsored by Education Committee chair [Jaiza N. Page](#), allows the Director of Education to enter into an \$80,000 contract with Columbus City Schools (CCS) to provide pre-kindergarten services in conjunction with similar awards between the State of Ohio and CCS. The state contract is for half day pre-kindergarten services. The City will leverage these funds by entering into a contract to cover the other half day of services for children with the State of Ohio. In 2013, The Columbus Education Commission recommended that the community support quality pre-kindergarten for every 4 year old in CCS by the year 2020.

HEALTHY START: Councilmember [Priscilla R. Tyson](#), chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0514-2015 to allow Columbus Public Health to accept \$900,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the Healthy Start grant program. Healthy Start is a key component of the Columbus Public Health efforts to address infant mortality and support the work of Celebrate One, the initiative that will focus on improving infant mortality rates in three targeted neighborhoods of South Linden, the Near South, and the Near East. Celebrate One is a major policy effort of Council [President Ginther](#) with a goal of reducing the mortality rate by 40 percent and cut the rate of racial disparity in infant deaths in half. In 2014 in Franklin County, 145 babies died before reaching the age of one, with black babies more than twice as likely as white babies to die before their first birthday.

SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURS: Small & Minority Business Development Chair [Shannon G. Hardin](#) is sponsoring ordinance 0485-2015 to support TechColumbus and the Entrepreneurial Signature Program (ESP). The ESP is a statewide effort to secure early stage capital to meet the

needs for pre-seed capital for Ohio start-up technology companies. Since 2007, the City of Columbus has committed more than \$3,000,000 to support the ESP.

BUILDING A REGIONAL ECONOMY: Columbus 2020 is a non-profit economic development organization for the 11-county Columbus region with a mission to generate opportunity and build capacity for economic growth throughout Central Ohio. The Columbus 2020 team conducts business outreach to existing economic base companies, markets the region to growing companies worldwide, conducts customized research to better understand the region's competitiveness and makes strategic development investments by leveraging public, private and institutional partnerships. The goals to be achieved by Columbus 2020 by the year 2020 include the following:

- add 150,000 net new jobs
- increase personal per capita income by 30 percent
- add \$8 billion of capital investment
- be recognized as a national leader in economic development

Ordinance 0487-2015, sponsored by Development Committee chair [Michelle M. Mills](#), allows the Director of Development to enter into a contract in the amount of \$700,000 with Columbus 2020. The funds will provide City resources for aggressive action with key business and government contacts for business relocation, expansion, and retention in the downtown area, central city neighborhoods, and growth areas. In addition, these funds represent commitment to Columbus 2020's efforts related to the City's continued interest in workforce development, area wide marketing, international marketing, creation and nurturing of entrepreneurship, and investment in public sector infrastructure.

CRIME PATROLS: The Community Crime Patrol (CCP) uses trained observers to identify suspicious activities and report criminal behavior to the Division of Police. Ordinance 0349-2015, sponsored by Public Safety Committee chair [Zach M. Klein](#) will fund the CCP for 2015 and into next year. Neighborhoods patrolled include The Ohio State University District, Weinland Park, Hilltop, Franklinton, Merion Village Area, Downtown Park District (Scioto Mile, North Bank Park, Genoa, Scioto Audubon, and Bicentennial Park) , and Northland/North Linden Area.

PROCLAMATION DAY: Councilmember [Eileen Y. Paley](#) reminds all Columbus residents that Friday, March 6 is Proclamation Day. This annual celebration, held in City Council Chambers and beginning at 10:45 am, is sponsored by the Shamrock Club of Columbus and celebrates Irish heritage and, among other highlights, recognizes Columbus police and fire personnel of Irish descent.