PRIDE WEEK: Today begins a week full of activities surrounding the 2015 Stonewall Columbus Pride Festival and all week long City Councilmembers will be taking part in programs that celebrate the contributions and achievements of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and allied (GLBTQA) community. Tonight at the City Council meeting, Council President Andrew J. Ginther is sponsoring a resolution to recognize Stonewall’s 34 years of advocacy on behalf of the GLBTQA community. Council will also consider legislation, co-sponsored by Councilmember Eileen Y. Paley, to help the group purchase pride banners that will be flown around the downtown. Then at dusk, Councilmember Shannon G. Hardin will host a ceremony that will transform City Hall lights into the various colors of the rainbow. That ceremony includes the unveiling of a street sign at the corner of Front and Broad Streets to celebrate Pride Week.

PASSPORT PROGRAM: Every year, the PASSPORT (Pre-Admission Screening System Providing Options and Resources Today) program provides care and assisted living services for some 5,500 older adult in Columbus and central Ohio. City Council will consider two pieces of legislation this evening, both sponsored by Recreation and Parks Committee Chair Jaiza Page, to fund PASSPORT through the middle of 2016. Ordinance 1441-2015 authorizes the appropriation of $37,100,000.00 from the Ohio Department of Aging for PASSPORT services while 1464-2015 allows the city to enter into various contracts with 363 PASSPORT care providers.

HOUSING WORKS: Development Committee chair Michelle M. Mills is sponsoring 1489-2015 to provide $1,000,000.00 for the Housing Works Program to offer financial support for the development and redevelopment of housing for people working near major job centers that cannot afford market rate units. Grants made from the program will help to reduce developer costs paid per unit.
HAMILTON ROAD IMPROVEMENTS: Public Service and Transportation Committee chair Shannon G. Hardin is sponsoring ordinance 1445-2015 to authorize the Director of Public Service to enter into contract with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. in the amount of up to $1,000,000.00 for the Arterial Street Rehabilitation - Hamilton Road Phase B (S Curve) project. This project includes completion of final engineering for Phase B of improvements to the N. Hamilton Road corridor from Morse Road to SR-161 and intersecting arterial roadways, Morse Road and Dublin-Granville Road, to increase vehicular capacity, extend bikeway facilities, and complete gaps in the pedestrian system.

BUILDING BETTER NEIGHBORHOODS: Public Utilities Committee chair Zach M. Klein is sponsoring ordinance 1323-2015 for a storm water improvement project on the east side. The contract, worth $2,629,440.00, will provide new sewers along Ashburton Road between Dave Avenue and Mayfair Boulevard near Eastmoor Academy.

MINORITY HEALTH: Health and Human Services Committee chair Priscilla R. Tyson is sponsoring ordinance 1202-2015 to allow Columbus Public Health to accept a $42,5000.00 grant from the Ohio Commission on Minority Health to reduce health inequities and disparities in minority communities in the City of Columbus and to continue to develop the city's Minority Health Program.