



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**For Immediate Release:
June 22, 2015**

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

GRAFFITI ABATEMENT: First announced by Councilmembers Michelle M. Mills and Zach Klein in 2011, Columbus' graffiti abatement assistance program has helped residents erase vandalism and maintain safe and clean neighborhoods. Ordinance 1509-2015, sponsored by Development Committee chair Mills, authorizes the Director of the Department of Development to enter into a \$170,000 contract with Graffiti Protective Coatings, Inc. to provide graffiti abatement services within the City of Columbus. These services will allow the City to remove graffiti from various surfaces on various structures including occupied private residential structures, occupied commercial structures, fences, garages, where the owner has provided prior authorization to enter and remove the graffiti.

NEW HAZ MAT VEHICLE: Safety Committee chair Klein is sponsoring ordinance 1447-2015 so the City can enter into contract with Farber Specialty Vehicles for the purchase of a hazardous material response vehicle and related equipment for the Fire Division. The Division is replacing a front line hazardous materials response vehicle that is approximately 20 years old and is beyond its useful life. The cost of the equipment is \$888,900.

EARLY START COLUMBUS: Education Committee chair Jaiza Page is sponsoring ordinance 1393-2015 to invest \$4,222,950 in Early Start Columbus, a program to provide quality preschool services for Columbus four-year olds. A Pre-K education is one of the 55 recommendations made by the Columbus Education Commission to improve educational outcomes for local children. By expanding pre-kindergarten services, Columbus children will not only improve readiness for kindergarten but will be able to accelerate learning and academic performance beyond kindergarten. Early Start Columbus will focus on all-day, year-round services with curriculum aligned with the Department of Jobs and Family Services and Ohio Department of Education early learning standards.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS: Finance Committee chair Priscilla R. Tyson is sponsoring Resolution 0138x-2015 that will allow the City of Columbus access local government funding

from the State of Ohio. This category also includes the city's share of estate taxes and other smaller taxes. Total revenues are projected at \$21.7 million in 2015, up \$500,000 from 2014.

HILLTOP BEAN DINNER: Councilmember Eileen Y. Paley sponsors ordinance 0164x-2015 to honor and recognize the Hilltop Business Association and the 2015 Historic Hilltop Bean Dinner and to declare June 27, 2015, "Bean Dinner Day" in Columbus in honor of the 80-year-old tradition held every June in Columbus' Westgate Park.