COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For Immediate Release:
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For More Information:
Lee Cole, (614) 645-5530
Web – Facebook – Twitter

COMMUNITY GARDENS: President Pro Tem Priscilla Tyson is supporting ordinance 0809-2016, which allows Columbus Public Health to allocate $26,280.00 in grants to non-profit organizations for community gardening projects. From 12 plots in 2000, to approximately 250 community gardens today, thousands of residents benefit from greater access to nutritious food, community engagement, beautification, food security and multiculturalism. Additionally, more than 40,000 pounds of fresh produce is donated annually to food pantries and residents who live in food deserts, far from grocery stores.

JOBS BOOT CAMP: President Pro Tem Priscilla Tyson and Councilmember Shannon Hardin are co-sponsoring ordinance 0959-2016, which enters into a contract with Sinclair Media II for sponsorship of three WSYX ABC 6’s Job Boot Camps. The Job Boot Camp event helps professionals achieve their career goals and discover employment opportunities with workshops, on-site professional mentors and job training.

NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGN CENTER: Councilmember Elizabeth Brown is sponsoring ordinance 0637-2016, which authorizes the Director of the Department of Development to enter into a contract with the Neighborhood Design Center to provide exterior design services and planning activities. The Center was established to promote the role of the architect in the development process, provide training for architecture students, encourage good design in redevelopment and generate participation in the City’s commercial revitalization efforts. Since 1982, the organization has undertaken work for numerous clients all within the Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization (NCR) districts.

RESTORATION WORK: Public Utilities Chair Michael Stinziano is supporting ordinance 0805-2016, which enters into a $1,460,622.50 contract with Decker Construction Company, for the Utility Cut Restorations
- 2016 Project. Throughout the year, various types of utility excavations are performed within the City of Columbus' right-of-way by the Department of Public Utilities. The restoration work for these projects involves repair of existing pavement, curbs, and sidewalks in a manner conforming to the City of Columbus, Construction and Material Specifications.

**LEAD SAFE COLUMBUS:** Councilmember Jaiza Page, chair of the Housing Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0875-2016 for lead hazard control projects in the Lead Safe Columbus program. The mission of the program is to generate lead-safe and healthy affordable housing and prevent lead poisoning of children and adults in Columbus neighborhoods. These funds allow the program to provide grants for property owners to create lead safe, affordable housing for families with low and moderate income under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development guidelines.

**MASS NOTIFICATION:** Councilmember Mitchell J. Brown, chair of the Public Safety Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0939-2016, which authorizes and directs the Director of the Department of Public Safety to pay the City's proportionate share for operational and administrative support activities of the Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security program including the mass notification system. This system can reach residents in the form of phone messages, text messages and email. The program also includes planning for disaster recovery, public education and exercises.

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