COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For Immediate Release:
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CAR SEAT SAFETY: Health and Human Services Committee Chair Priscilla Tyson is co-sponsoring ordinance 1032-2016 with Councilmember Michael Stinziano, to support the work of the child car seat inspection and installation program. Columbus Public Health, coordinating with the CelebrateOne infant mortality reduction initiative and Safe Kids Central Ohio Injury Prevention program, distributes and installs child safety seats in vehicles for qualifying city residents. Car seats are provided to qualified residents at reduced prices. Certified staff members also assist families who already have car seats by helping them install the seat properly into their vehicle at no cost to the family. This funding provides an additional part-time staff member to reduce wait times for car seat installation and inspections.

PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY IMPROVEMENTS: Councilmember Shannon Hardin is supporting ordinance 1097-2016, which enters into contract with Newcomer Concrete, Inc. for the Pedestrian Safety Improvement - Whittier Street Sidewalks - Lockbourne Road to Fairwood Avenue project. The project includes the construction of new sidewalks on the north and south sides of Whittier Street between Lockbourne Road and the alley east of Fairwood Avenue. Work for this project incorporates curb, sidewalk, brick paver and minor storm sewer work. It also includes overhead electric and waterline relocation.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WEEK: Councilmember Elizabeth Brown is presenting resolution 0116X-2016 to recognize May 8-14, 2016 as Economic Development Week. Economic development professionals, Columbus based businesses and the local workforce create a positive, lasting impact in Columbus communities. The Department of Development and economic developers in the City of Columbus help create better jobs and an improved quality of life for residents by seeking opportunities for smart, sustainable economic growth.
VIOLENCE INTERVENTION: Councilmember Jaiza Page, chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee, is sponsoring ordinances that enter into contract with the Communities for New Direction and the Columbus Urban League to provide professional and fiscal services for the implementation of the 2016 Neighborhood Violence Intervention Program. Violence interruption and crisis response activities include responding to specific violent confrontations, working to mediate and diffuse conflict tensions and actively promoting peace building among our youth.

SPECIALTY DOCKETS: Council President Zach Klein is co-sponsoring an ordinance to support the Franklin County Municipal Court’s specialty docket program. Chair of the Judiciary and Court Administration Committee, Michael Stinziano, is presenting ordinance 1089-2106, which transfers $340,000.00 from the general fund to the Specialty Docket Programs. The Specialized Docket consists of five programs addressing drug and alcohol addiction, heroin addiction, mental health issues and the special needs of human trafficking victims and veterans. These programs hold criminal offenders accountable while linking them with comprehensive treatment and services leading to a reduction in recidivism and increased community safety.

VOLUNTEER PEACE OFFICERS’ DEPENDENTS FUND: Council President Zach Klein is co-sponsoring an ordinance that establishes the Volunteer Peace Officers’ Dependents Fund Board. Councilmember Mitchell J. Brown, chair of the Public Safety Committee, is offering ordinance 1107-2016, which enacts new Section 1909.12 of the Columbus City Code. The Volunteer Peace Officers’ Dependents Fund provides death benefits to survivors of volunteer peace officers killed in the line of duty. It also grants disability benefits to disabled volunteer peace officers and makes survivors of gaming agents and Department of Taxation investigators eligible for benefits from the Ohio Public Safety Officers Death Benefit Fund.

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