

COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For Immediate Release:
September 12, 2016

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SICKLE CELL MONTH: President Pro Tem [Priscilla Tyson](#), is presenting resolution 0214X-2016 to recognize September as Sickle Cell Month in the City of Columbus and support the Ohio Sickle Cell and Health Association. The association educates and advocates for individuals and families affected by Sickle Cell Disease. The mission of the organization is to provide education, advocacy and statewide support through testing, counseling, referrals, and various initiatives. One out of every 500 African-American children is born with sickle cell anemia.

CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE OFFICE: Chair of the Judiciary and Court Committee, [Michael Stinziano](#), is sponsoring ordinance 2132-2016, to help fund salaries and benefits for two victim assistant staffers for probation officers primarily in the domestic violence unit. The grant also funds the purchase of bus passes to assist victims of domestic violence with transportation needs. Staff acts as liaisons to the City Prosecutor and works with the victims of crime when a perpetrator has been placed on probation.

SUPPORT FOR COTA LEVY: Councilmember [Shannon Hardin](#) is sponsoring resolution 0203X-2106, to support the Central Ohio Transit Authority's 2016 tax levy. Since its last levy, COTA has expanded service by 80% to provide Central Ohioans with greater access to education, jobs and medical services. It has increased ridership to over 19 million passengers in both 2014 and 2015, providing 68 local, express or crosstown lines.

FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVATORY: Chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee, [Jaiza Page](#), is sponsoring ordinance 1887-2016, to authorize the Director of Recreation and Parks to enter into contract with Franklin Park Conservatory for the administration to implement the Franklin Park Master Plan. This \$1,500,000 investment supports design and construction of a new 2-acre children's garden and 8-acre expanded visitor experience. The completed project is scheduled to open in May, 2018.



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BODY WORN CAMERA PROJECT UPGRADES: Councilmember [Mitchell Brown](#) is offering ordinance 1842-2016, to authorize the Director of the Department Public Safety to enter into a contract to fund the installation of fiber optic cabling at three Division of Police substations. This project provides fiber optic network services to these substations in conjunction with the Body Worn Camera Project. The increased bandwidth allows video to be uploaded from body worn cameras at these stations.

RECOGNIZING HOPE OVER HEROIN: Council President [Zach Klein](#) is presenting resolution 0213X-2106 to recognize Hope Over Heroin for its efforts toward saving lives and stopping the cycle of addiction in Columbus. The goal of Hope Over Heroin is to create a network of resources that offer drug related programs. They ask that treatment centers, recovery groups, churches, food shelters and other resources partner with them in providing hope. This August, the group hosted a free two-day event at Dodge Park with more than 30 churches, three dozen organizations and elected officials. Many individuals were taken in to begin detoxing programs and over 70 of them received free treatment.

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