

COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH GRANT PROGRAM: President Pro Tem [Priscilla Tyson](#), chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 2519-2016 to authorize the Board of Health to accept a grant from the Ohio Department of Health and Human Services for the Maternal and Child Health grant program. This project addresses the high rates of smoking, especially among pregnant women, childhood obesity and infant mortality. The grant also explores the significant racial disparities and high incidence of sleep-related infant deaths through the Columbus Ohio Equity Institute project. A transportation needs assessment, focusing on the accessibility of Franklin County WIC clinics, and Columbus Public Health’s Fetal Infant Mortality Review program will also be supported.

ISLAMOPHOBIA RESOLUTION: Councilmember [Michael Stinziano](#) is presenting resolution 0251X-2016 to condemn the rise of Islamophobia, a form of religious intolerance, and declare support for the Muslim community in the City. Columbus is proud to be racially, ethnically and religiously inclusive. It is home to thousands of Muslims who serve as United States military personnel, police officers, doctors, nurses, caregivers, business owners, teachers and many other roles that are integral to the City’s success.

SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM: Councilmember [Shannon Hardin](#), chair of the Public Service and Transportation Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 2584-2016 to make grant payments for the Sidewalk Repair Grant Program. This program was established to assist lower income residential property owners and small business owners within the City to pay for required repairs. The Department of Public Service investigates the condition of sidewalks, shared-use paths and driveway entrances through complaints received by the City’s 311 service. If there is an issue, residents are given “A Notice of Violation” letter for the required repairs. Successful grant applicants can then receive up to \$1,500 to help cover the cost of repairs. Property owners are responsible for paying any remaining balance due for repairs.



ZACH KLEIN, PRESIDENT | PRISCILLA R. TYSON, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
ELIZABETH C. BROWN | MITCHELL J. BROWN | SHANNON G. HARDIN | JAIZA PAGE | MICHAEL STINZIANO

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INCENTIVE OFFERING STUDY: Chair of the Economic Development Committee [Elizabeth Brown](#) is sponsoring ordinance 2505-2016 to authorize the Director of the Department of Development to enter into a contract to conduct an analysis of current incentive offerings for residential, office and industrial development. The City is looking to better understand the impacts of its current incentive programs on development patterns and competitiveness. The study will also explore possible modifications to its current incentive policies and program offerings to achieve industry growth patterns that foster job expansion, competitive wages, workforce attraction, economic inclusion and community development.

DRY RUN STREAM RESTORATION: Chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee [Jaiza Page](#) is sponsoring ordinance 2259-2016 to authorize the Director of the Recreation and Parks Department to enter into a contract for the restoration of Dry Run Stream. This seven square mile watershed flows through the City's Hilltop and Westgate communities. The project will create a fully functional floodplain, stream channel and habitat recovery zone. The project also provides a significant educational opportunity for young people and expanded recreation in the Hilltop neighborhood.

REENTRY ENTREPRENEURSHIP PILOT PROGRAM: Council President [Zach Klein](#) and Public Safety Committee Chair [Mitchell Brown](#) are sponsoring ordinance 2648-2016 to authorize a contract for \$30,000 between Columbus City Council and the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at The Ohio State University for the development of the Reentry Entrepreneurship Program (REP). The purpose of the program is to provide current and previously incarcerated individuals with the information and education needed to start the process of developing a small business. The program will focus on strategic plan development, entrepreneurship training, personal and basic business finance and leadership development. Participants will focus on issues such as business viability, mentorship, recruitment and training.

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY CAMERAS: Council President [Zach Klein](#) and Public Safety Committee Chair [Mitchell Brown](#) are sponsoring ordinance 2245-2016 to authorize the Public Safety Director to enter into a contract for the design and installation of 27 neighborhood safety camera systems in nine locations. This is part of a comprehensive approach to crime prevention in Columbus neighborhoods that began in 2011 with the Neighborhood Safety Program. The program has been expanded to include a total of 300 cameras in 100 locations throughout the Hilltop, Livingston Avenue, Mt. Vernon, Weinland Park and Linden neighborhoods. This ordinance increases the number of cameras in those five original neighborhoods and places new cameras in Franklinton, the Far East and Far North areas of Columbus.

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