

## COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For Immediate Release: November 7, 2016

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**NATIONAL DIABETES MONTH:** President Pro Tem <u>Priscilla Tyson</u> is presenting resolution 0271X-2016 to declare November as National Diabetes Month in the City of Columbus. Diabetes is a chronic illness that can lead to serious complications, including heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, blindness and amputation. Approximately every 23 seconds, someone in the United States is diagnosed with diabetes. In association with National Diabetes Month, the National Institute of Health is urging people to take action and make simple but important lifestyle changes to achieve their health goals.

**STREET LIGHT IMPROVEMENTS:** Councilmember <u>Michael Stinziano</u>, chair of the Public Utilities Committee, is supporting ordinance 2449-2016 to enter into a contract for street light improvements. Approximately 177 Overhead LED Cobra Street Lights will be installed in the Hilltop area of Columbus.

**SISTER CITIES PROGRAM:** Councilmember <u>Shannon Hardin</u> is presenting resolution 0267X-2016 to celebrate the Sister Cities Program. Sister Cities International creates and strengthens partnerships between the United States and international communities to increase global cooperation, promote cultural understanding and stimulate economic development. On November 11, 2016 a Columbus delegation comprised of leaders from non-profit, private and public sectors will travel to Accra, Ghana. This delegation is working to reduce barriers by strengthening relationships leading to successful business and cultural development.

**OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY RECOGNITION:** Councilmember <u>Elizabeth Brown</u> is presenting resolution 0270X-2016 to recognize the 105th anniversary of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. The fraternity was founded on November 17, 1911 on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. It became the first international fraternal organization founded on the campus of a historically black college. Omega Charities is recognized throughout the nation for providing quality programming to at-risk youth and as



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an advocate for professional mentoring, job training and referral, disaster relief for the disadvantaged and support to the elderly and homeless.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT:** Chair of the Housing Committee Jaiza Page is sponsoring ordinance 2555-2016 to adopt the 2017 Action Plan Budget, which implements the third year of the five-year "Consolidated Plan" for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) programs. The funding associated with the Consolidated Action Plan provides a necessary resource to support entrepreneurship and small business development, affordable housing and public health for at-risk residents. The Consolidated Plan budget process involves four Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grants.

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