COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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GO RED FOR WOMEN: President Pro Tem Priscilla Tyson is sponsoring resolution 0003X-2017 to declare February 3, 2017 as Wear Red Day in Columbus and to raise awareness of cardiovascular disease as the leading cause of death among women. Cardiovascular disease and strokes kill 1 woman every 80 seconds in the United States. Only one in five American women believe that heart disease is her greatest health threat despite 90 percent of women having one or more risk factors for developing heart disease. Women involved with the American Heart Association’s Go Red For Women movement live healthier lives and motivate others to meet with healthcare providers to determine their risk for cardiovascular disease and stroke.

REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES: Councilmembers Elizabeth Brown and Shannon Hardin are co-sponsoring resolution 0032X-2017 to recognize the importance of refugee and immigrant communities in Columbus. The United States is a nation of immigrants where people have come to seek the freedoms of our nation and protection from persecution. These groups have stitched the fabric of American life and bolstered our economy. By keeping families together, no matter their race, creed or origin, we live out the values of a democratic nation.

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS: Chair of the Public Utilities Committee Michael Stinziano is sponsoring ordinances to improve infrastructure in the Franklinton and Linden neighborhoods. Recommended improvements in Franklinton are aimed at facilitating redevelopment of Columbus' oldest neighborhood and meeting the City's obligations to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Another ordinance authorizes the Director of Public Utilities to enter into a construction contract for inspection, material testing and necessary improvements to the water distribution system in Linden to replace water lines that have high break histories and require frequent maintenance.
DISPARITY STUDY IMPLEMENTATION: Councilmember Shannon Hardin, chair of the Small and Minority Business Development Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0075-2017 to authorize the Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) to enter into a contract for a disparity study. The study analyzes City procurement operations to determine whether there is a disparity between the availability of minority and women-owned business enterprises and the City’s utilization of those businesses. The last disparity study in Columbus was conducted over a decade ago. The findings of this study will guide and inform ODI’s work to ensure fairness, equity and inclusion in the City’s procurement practices.

LEAD SAFE COLUMBUS: Councilmember Jaiza Page, chair of the Housing Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0047-2017 to authorize the Director of the Department of Development to enter into a contract with Franklin County Public Health for Lead Safe Columbus. The program provides grants to qualified property owners in order to remove lead based hazards in owner and tenant occupied units. The grants allow for lead based paint testing, risk assessments, healthy homes assessments, work specification preparation and final clearance testing on up to 230 housing units.

START WITH HELLO WEEK: Council President Zach Klein is sponsoring resolution 0030X-2017 to recognize February 6-10, 2017 as “Start With Hello” Week in Columbus. This program teaches children and teens how to be more socially accepting and relate to one another. The goal of the week is to foster long-term connectedness and greater inclusion within entire schools, communities and beyond. Start With Hello is one of Sandy Hood Promise’s four Know the Signs programs, other include Say Something, Safety Assessment and Intervention and Mental Health First Aid.

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