

COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For Immediate Release:
February 27, 2017

For More Information:
Lee Cole, (614) 645-5530
[Web](#) – [Facebook](#) – [Twitter](#)

FUNDING COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS: President Pro Tem [Priscilla R. Tyson](#), chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0211-2017 to enter into a contract to provide primary healthcare and dental services at community-based health centers. Since 1974, Columbus Public Health (CPH) has provided primary healthcare services to the underserved through contracts with community-based health centers. Since 1998, CPH has contracted with Columbus Neighborhood Health Center, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation, to provide these services. The centers are successful, low-cost options for primary care access and save the healthcare system between \$9.9 billion and \$17.6 billion a year.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOLUTION: Councilmember [Elizabeth Brown](#) is sponsoring resolution 0059X-2017 to support Ohio House Bill 1. This legislation would expand the definition of domestic violence in Ohio to include individuals in ongoing, substantial, intimate and romantic relationships. It also would allow victims of dating violence to obtain civil protective orders against their attacker, a protection not allowed under current Ohio law. Columbus is committed to providing resources and protection for individuals experiencing domestic violence. House Bill 1 would add substantial new legal options to strengthen the City's efforts.

TEENS AND POLICE SERVICES ACADEMY: Councilmember [Mitchell Brown](#), chair of the Public Safety Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0251-2017 to enter into a contract for the administration of the Teens and Police Services (TAPS) Academy. The TAPS Academy is a mentorship program run by the Columbus Division of Police for select juveniles at four middle and high schools between ages 13 to 17 years old. Those in the program will receive intensive mentoring by Police Officers trained in the TAPS Academy curriculum developed by the Houston Police Department.



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

CITY CLERK | ANDREA BLEVINS, CMC

ENVIRONMENTAL COURT EXPANSION: Councilmember [Michael Stinziano](#), chair of the Judiciary and Court Administration Committee, is sponsoring an ordinance for anticipated expenses associated with enhancing the Environmental Court. This expansion will allow for an increase in programming including the Community Cleanup Crew. Typical cleanup projects include litter collection, community cleanups, landscaping, graffiti removal and special projects assisting local seniors and disabled residents.

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER INITIATIVE: Councilmember [Shannon Hardin](#), chair of the Neighborhoods Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0383-2017 to enter into a contract to complete a community assessment that will facilitate the ongoing development of the My Brother's Keeper (MBK) initiative. The Kirwan Institute will conduct a comprehensive assessment of the needs of boys and young men of color to identify opportunity areas for the MBK program. The assessment will provide demographic information, a vulnerability index, mapping of community assets and definition of focus areas. These areas include education, mentoring and workforce development, violence prevention and trauma intervention. This study will inform future policy and programming aimed at improving the quality of life and access to opportunity for boys and young men of color in Columbus.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST: Councilmember [Jaiza Page](#), chair of the Housing Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0443-2017 to enter into a contract with the Affordable Housing Trust of Columbus and Franklin County to assist in the production of affordable housing to enhance home ownership opportunities in the City. The Housing Trust combines a variety of public and private funding sources to support the development of housing. The goal of the Housing Trust is for 50% of the City's leveraged funding to benefit residents who are at or below 60% of the Columbus' median income.

SEXUAL ASSAULT PROGRAM FUNDING: Council President [Zach Klein](#) and Councilmember [Michael Stinziano](#) are sponsoring ordinance 0343-2017 to accept a grant from the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, Office of Homeland Security and Justice Programs, to fund the 2017 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Sexual Assault Prosecutors and Victim Advocate program. This grant helps fund the salary and training costs of two Prosecuting Attorneys and one Victim Advocate for the Prosecution Section of the City Attorney's Office. These individuals assist witnesses and victims of sexual assault through the legal process and provide counseling, referrals and linkage with agencies and community resources.

###



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

CITY CLERK | ANDREA BLEVINS, CMC