

## COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For Immediate Release:  
March 27, 2017

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

**HIV GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING:** President Pro Tem [Priscilla R. Tyson](#), chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0451-2017 to accept over \$4 million in funding for the HIV Care Part A grant program. The purpose of the grant is to improve the quality of life for those living with HIV or AIDS in Central Ohio by increasing access to medical care. The program covers HIV related medical visits, mental health services, substance abuse services and oral health care.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT STALKING PROGRAM:** Councilmember [Michael Stinziano](#), chair of the Judiciary and Court Administration Committee and Council President [Zach Klein](#) are sponsoring an ordinance to accept a grant to help fund the 2017 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Law Enforcement Stalking Advocate program. This grant helps cover the salary and training costs of one Stalking Advocate for the Domestic Violence and Stalking Unit of the City Attorney's Office. The advocate assists witnesses and victims of stalking through the legal process, provides counseling and connects them to agencies and community resources.

**STREET IMPROVEMENTS:** Councilmember [Shannon Hardin](#), chair of the Public Service and Transportation Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0561-2017 to provide payment for the construction and inspection services for the roadway improvements for Parsons Avenue, Livingston Avenue and Hosack Street. The improvements consist of curb ramps, minor storm sewer work, resurfacing, striping and signage. The work is set to begin in late April.

**CULTURAL AND SPECIAL EVENTS FUNDING:** Councilmember [Jaiza Page](#), chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0322-2017 to support the various annual special and cultural arts programming that enriches the lives of residents and visitors of Columbus. Items supported by these funds include festivals, sports tournament support and music licensing at events and facilities.



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

City Council created the program in 1995 to support community groups that host free events that celebrate cultural, ethnic and artistic diversity.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND PREPAREDNESS:** Councilmember [Mitchell J. Brown](#), chair of the Public Safety Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 0593-2017 to help fund operational and administrative support activities of the Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security program. This program is responsible for managing the outdoor warning siren system within Franklin County including maintenance, relocation and activation. The organization's operational activities also include planning for disaster recovery, public education and exercises.

**CONVERSION THERAPY BAN:** Council President [Zach Klein](#) is sponsoring ordinance 0525-2017 to enact a new section of the Columbus City Code that prohibits the practice of conversion or reparative therapy on minors and outlines penalties for violations of that section. Conversion or reparative therapy attempts to change or alter sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. This therapy has little or no scientifically-demonstrated effectiveness or benefit. There is, however, substantial evidence of the potential mental and emotional risk inherent in the practice. Columbus now joins state and local leaders around the country who have also introduced or passed legislation to ban this harmful practice.

###



**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**