

COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For Immediate Release:
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For More Information:
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LAUNDERING TURNOUT GEAR: Councilmember [Mitchell Brown](#), chair of the Public Safety Committee, and Council President [Zach Klein](#) are sponsoring ordinance 0925-2017 to purchase commercial laundry equipment for the Division of Fire Training Bureau. Helping keep Columbus firefighters safe, this equipment removes carcinogenic chemicals from turnout gear.

INCREASING ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD: President Pro Tem [Priscilla R. Tyson](#), chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, and Councilmember [Michael Stinziano](#) are sponsoring ordinance 1005-2017 to support the development of a not for profit grocery store and café located in Franklinton. Lower Lights Christian Health Center will develop and operate the facility. The grocery store will offer an inventory of healthy and affordable fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy, meats, breads, ready-made foods and other grocery items sourced from local vendors and national distributors. It will also provide 15 jobs with livable wages to residents.

REMOVAL OF MILKWEED FROM NOXIOUS WEED LIST: Councilmember [Elizabeth Brown](#) is sponsoring ordinance 0977-2017 to remove milkweed from the list of noxious weeds. Milkweed is the only plant where monarch butterflies lay their eggs and widespread use of pesticides and other losses of habitat have reduced its availability. Monarch butterflies act as a pollinator and contribute to the wellbeing of the food system.

AREA COMMISSION FUNDING: Councilmember [Shannon Hardin](#), chair of the Neighborhoods Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 1007-2017 to appropriate funds for operating expenses of Columbus Area Commissions. These funds allow each area commission the flexibility in decision making to fulfill its functions and responsibilities. Each commission will receive up to \$2,500.



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HOUSING COUNSELING SERVICES: Councilmember [Jaiza Page](#), chair of the Housing Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 1048-2017 to enter into a contract with Columbus Housing Partnership to provide housing counseling services. These services include pre-purchase education, financial literacy, individual homebuyer information and foreclosure counseling.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES SAFETY AUDIT: Councilmember [Michael Stinziano](#), chair of the Public Utilities Committee, is sponsoring an ordinance to keep Columbus utility workers safe on the job. This ordinance enters the City into an engineering agreement to conduct safety audits of machinery and equipment at all of the City's Public Utility facilities and ensure proper control of hazardous energy sources.

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