COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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

MARYHAVEN ADDICTION STABILIZATION CENTER: Council President Zach Klein and President Pro Tem Priscilla Tyson are sponsoring ordinance 2831-2017 to enter into contract with Maryhaven in support of the Addiction Stabilization Center. The center is expected to open by the end of 2017 and will offer 55 beds to triage patients and provide immediate access to detoxification and treatment services. This facility promotes the Franklin County Opiate Action Plan’s goal of treatment and support.

POINDEXTER VILLAGE FUNDING: President Pro Tem Priscilla Tyson and Councilmember Jaiza Page are sponsoring ordinance 2761-2017 for the acquisition, stabilization and rehabilitation of two buildings on the Poindexter Village site. In December of 2016, the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority approved the sale of the buildings to the Ohio History Connection for long term preservation. The organization will collaborate with the James Preston Poindexter Foundation to create exhibits and programming at the site to promote its history and story.

COLUMBUS FAMILIES TOGETHER FUND: Councilmember Elizabeth Brown, chair of the Administration Committee, is sponsoring ordinances 2877-2017, 2890-2017 and 2891-2017 to establish the Columbus Families Together Fund (CFTF). This fund will provide resources and legal services to Columbus’ immigrant and refugee communities who are facing overly aggressive deportation tactics that separate children who are U.S. citizens from their parents. Despite high rates of removal, many immigrants have legal avenues to remain in the United States but lack the resources to claim them. The CFTF fills that gap to keep children with their parents. Columbus is a safer, more just, and economically vibrant city for everyone when we address the needs of all our residents. Council President Zach Klein and Councilmember Shannon Hardin are also sponsoring the legislation.
RECOGNIZING 40 YEARS OF CRIME STOPPERS: Councilmember Mitchell Brown is presenting resolution 0293X-2017 to celebrate 40 Years of Central Ohio Crime Stoppers and its contributions to the safety of Columbus. The organization was founded in 1977 to promote the welfare of communities throughout the country. Programming includes an anonymous tip hotline, “most wanted” program for fugitives and promotion throughout high schools and college campuses.

REESE NEADER MEMORIAL AWARDEE: Councilmember Shannon Hardin is introducing resolution 0290X-2017 to present John Rush with the Reese Neader Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship and Social Change. Rush is a local social entrepreneur who has committed his career to providing employment opportunities for the disadvantaged. He has excelled in this through the launch of companies CleanTurn and She Has a Name, which have made a deep impact in the community.

FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVATORY MASTER PLAN: Councilmember Jaiza Page, chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 2678-2017 to implement the Franklin Park Conservatory Master Plan. Funds for the project will support design and construction of a new 2-acre children's garden and 8-acre expanded visitor experience. It is scheduled to open May of 2018.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM UPGRADE: Councilmember Michael Stinziano, chair of the Technology Committee, is sponsoring an ordinance to enter into a collaborative partnership with Columbus City Schools (CCS) for the provision of Voice-Over-Internet-Protocol (VOIP) telephone services. Over the past several years, the City has implemented a robust VOIP system and CCS is seeking to update their existing telephone system. For efficiency and cost savings, CCS is entering into a payment for services agreement with the City.