

COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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

OHIO FAIRNESS ACT: Council President [Shannon Hardin](#) is presenting resolution 0029X-2018 to support the Ohio Fairness Act and the effort to change Ohio’s anti-discrimination laws to include sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression as protected classes. All Ohioans should be treated equally, have the opportunity to provide for their family and be judged solely on their merit. A dedication to inclusion and openness is also critical to attract top talent and employers from around the world.

PUBLIC UTILITIES PROGRAMS: President Pro Tem [Michael Stinziano](#), chair of the Public Utilities Committee, is sponsoring an ordinance for the Healthy Homes program. For over 15 years, the Columbus Division of Water and Columbus Public Health have partnered in this national to help eliminate lead exposure, mold, pests and other hazards in homes. Stinziano is also sponsoring an ordinance to support a ticket management system for the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) program. Any plans that include digging or excavating need to call OUPS by dialing 8-1-1 at least 48 hours before you dig.

OPERATING BUDGET: Councilmember [Elizabeth Brown](#), chair of the Finance Committee, is sponsoring ordinances 3008-2017 and 3009-2017 to enact the 2018 operating budget. The budget will maintain City services at current levels. The budget will also transfer over \$2.9 million to the Council Initiatives funds. Throughout the budget process, Councilmembers are guided by the principles of maintaining strong neighborhood services, protecting public safety and promoting economic development.

CLEAN ZONE LEGISLATION: Councilmembers [Jaiza Page](#) and [Mitchell J. Brown](#) are sponsoring ordinance 0388-2018 to create provisions for the designation, licensing and monitoring of a Clean Zone. This new zone is a geographically defined boundary where a special permit is required to lawfully sell or distribute



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licensed and/or special event related services or goods during a limited and specific time period. The purpose of this zone is to preserve the health and safety of all citizens, visitors and participants during the 2018 NCAA Women's Final Four event.

RECOGNIZING BLACK HISTORY MONTH: Councilmember [Priscilla Tyson](#) is presenting resolution 0026X-2018 to recognize February as Black History Month in the City of Columbus and celebrate the civil rights contributions of the NAACP. The organization continues to protect the political, educational, social and economic rights of all. The NAACP of Columbus has embraced a six point, game changing, strategic plan to address African American inequality including expanding youth and young adult engagement, health, public safety and criminal justice, voting rights and political representation, economic sustainability and education.

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