COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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

PRIDE ILLUMINATION: Please join the City of Columbus as it kicks-off Columbus Pride Week with the lighting of City Hall and presentation of the Steven Shellabarger Illuminator Award. The event will be held tonight, Monday, June 11, at City Hall, 90 W. Broad Street. A musical performance will begin at 8pm followed by the program at 8:30pm.

FUNDING VIOLENCE PREVENTION: Council President Shannon Hardin and Councilmember Elizabeth Brown, with the support of their Council colleagues, are sponsoring ordinances 1575-2018 and 1577-2018 to support and expand the Applications for Purpose, Pride and Success (APPS) program. Funding creates two new, full-time violence intervention staff members who will work on street-level violence interruption and conflict mediation with a focus on youth. It also expands the program’s Cap City Nights Festival series.

SUPPORTING THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT: Council President Pro Tem Michael Stinziano is presenting a resolution to support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). This amendment is designed to guarantee equal legal rights for all American citizens regardless of sex and end the legal distinction between men and women. In 1974, Ohio became the 33rd state to ratify the ERA.

HILLTOP AND LINDEN COMMUNITY MASTER PLAN: Council President Pro Tem Michael Stinziano, chair of the Neighborhoods Committee, is sponsoring an ordinance to continue work on the comprehensive community master plan for Linden and Hilltop with the Neighborhood Design Center. The organization is collaborating with the Department of Neighborhoods to engage the Linden and Hilltop communities, City Departments and other community partners to develop the plan. This work is part of the City’s goal to expand programs and services to better serve these neighborhoods.

RECREATION CENTER IMPROVEMENTS: Councilmember Elizabeth Brown, chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 1339-2018 for the renovation of the Indian Mound
Community Center. Improvements include expansions of the gym, kitchen, office and classroom space as well as utility upgrades. Through community meetings and resident input, the completed design was created to meet the needs of the neighborhood and the department.

**CHARITY NEWSIES:** Councilmember Jaiza Page is presenting ordinance 0180X-2018 to recognize Charity Newsies for over a century of exceptional fundraising for children. Since its inception, this organization has provided new clothing for children in need throughout Franklin County. Every year, Charity Newsies sell a special edition of the newspaper for any amount people are willing to give. On Friday, June 15, the organization will commemorate its long history with the unveiling of “The Newsboy,” a life-size bronze statue that will reside at 12 E. Broad Street.

**COMMITMENT TO TRANSPORTATION WORKERS:** Councilmember Emmanuel V. Remy, is presenting resolution 0187X-2018 to reaffirm Columbus City Council’s commitment to transportation workers and a world-class transportation system. Bus operators, mechanics and other personnel are vital to transportation services and assist thousands of residents traveling to work, school and other every day destinations. Council continues to work with all partners to improve the local public transportation system by investing in training and employment opportunities based on the understanding that smart technology is designed to uplift people and workers, not replace them.

**AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE WELLNESS WALK:** Councilmember Priscilla Tyson, chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, with support of all other members of Council is sponsoring ordinance 1518-2018 for the 2018 African American Male Wellness Walk. Established in 2004, the goal of the walk is to empower men to better understand and take action toward improving their health. The event is estimated to have 25,000 individuals in Central Ohio and over 50,000 nationally participate.

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