COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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DISTRIBUTION CODE CHANGES: Councilmember Mitchell J. Brown, chair of the Public Safety Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 1777-2018 to repeal and replace Chapter 2333 and to amend Section 2171.06 of the Columbus City Codes. The legislation places limits on distribution, secures ATM privacy and prevents obstruction of public right-of-ways to help ensure the health, safety and welfare of Columbus residents. It does not make it illegal for individuals to solicit money.

Over the past two years, Council met with the Mayor’s Administration, neighborhood community groups from Franklinton, Hilltop and the South Side, Downtown and Short North Special Improvement Districts, Community Shelter Board, Experience Columbus as well as many other local service providers to address the growing safety concerns of residents.

Earlier this year, Council held two public hearings with testimony from outreach workers, business leaders and community members, and drafted amendments to the City Code to address aggressive behaviors while guaranteeing the ability of all citizens to exercise their First Amendment rights.

Councilmembers continue to work on combating poverty in Columbus, which include housing instability, addiction and mental health. Over the last two years, Council has provided more than $14 million in funding to our community partners:

- More than $12 million to the Community Shelter Board, which helps provide stable housing
- More than $1.2 million to Maryhaven, which provides behavioral health and addiction services
- More than $600K to Alvis, which provides mental health and addiction services
- More than $250K to Netcare, which provides crisis response services

ENHANCED MATERNAL HEALTH PROGRAM: Councilmember Priscilla Tyson, chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 1545-2018 to allocate nearly $500K for the
Enhanced Maternal Health Program. The program supports expanding Centering Pregnancy services offered by PrimaryOne Health Centers and hiring community health workers who have completed a CelebrateOne Community Connector internship. The community health workers will support the Healthy Beginnings at Home, StepOne and MOMS2B programs.

**YOUTH MENTORING:** Council President Shannon Hardin and Councilmember Elizabeth Brown are sponsoring ordinance 1815-2018 in support of the organization’s Safe In My Brothers’ Arms and Safe In My Sisters’ Arms (SIMBA/SIMSA) summer youth programs. These programs give kids from vulnerable neighborhoods the opportunity to build positive relationships and discover their potential through mentoring services and other enrichment activities.

**FUNDING FIRST RESPONDERS:** Council President Pro Tem Michael Stinziano, chair of the Public Utilities Committee, is sponsoring an ordinance for fiber network and broadband access to maintain the dedicated connection between the City and The Ohio State University 911 dispatchers. Funding for this partnership increases efficiency and resources for Columbus’ first responders.

**OPPOSITION TO FEDERAL FAMILY SEPARATIONS:** Councilmember Elizabeth Brown is presenting resolution 0199X-2018 to oppose federal immigration policies that unnecessarily separate children from their families. The American Medical Association opposes the current federal policies implemented by the White House that isolate and detain infants and children, warning of lifelong negative health impacts for children who are currently being held in federal detention facilities. The City of Columbus is proud of its history of welcoming immigrants and refugees and is committed to supporting displaced persons and families.

**NATIONAL HOME OWNERSHIP MONTH:** Councilmember Jaiza Page is presenting resolution 0197X-2108 to recognize June 2018 as National Homeownership Month and commend The Columbus Realtist Association for its dedication to supporting equal housing opportunities. Founded in 1939, this organization of minority real estate professionals opens doors for African American consumers in Central Ohio. Realtist members have been involved with several legislative achievements, including the creation of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977, the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act (FIRREA) of 1989 and the establishment of affordable housing goals for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in 1992.

**INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS:** Councilmember Emmanuel V. Remy, chair of the Public Service Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 1472-2018 to reconstruct and widen portions of IR70 eastbound and westbound between 4th Street and Miller Avenue. The work is expected to begin in 2019.
Councilmember Remy is also sponsoring ordinance 1488-2018 for the 2018 Pedestrian Safety Improvements TRR Sidewalk Replacement project. Work for this project includes repairing sidewalks that have been damaged by City street trees in various locations throughout Columbus.

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