



Call The Roll

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THOMAS UNVEILS INITIATIVE TO REDUCE CARDIAC DEATHS

Making heart-shocking machines as easy to find as fire extinguishers can dramatically increase recovery from heart attacks and save lives. That's why Councilmember Patsy A. Thomas launched a pilot phase of "Project Second Chance" that calls for installing machines called Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in 11 heavily visited city buildings.



Project Second Chance is a united effort by Thomas, the City's Division of Fire and Department of Health, the

Central Ohio Chapter of the American Heart Association, International Association of Firefighters Local #67, AFSCME Local #1632 and the four non-profit community hospital systems serving Central Ohio.

Children's, Mount Carmel, OhioHealth and The OSU Health Systems contributed \$25,000 to purchase 10 AEDs while the Department of Health purchased two for the Parsons Avenue headquarters.

Heart disease, the leading cause of death in the United States, kills more than 400,000 people a year. More than half those deaths are caused by sudden cardiac arrest. About 600 people died last year from heart attacks in Franklin County.

"AEDs can dramatically increase survival rates from sudden cardiac arrest or heart attack outside of a hospital," Thomas said. "This pilot is just the beginning of what we can do. With a strong private and public partnership, greater community education, CPR training and tools like AEDs, Project Second Chance literally will save lives."

Columbus has already experienced the dramatic results of having AEDs in other public places. Two employees of the Tuttle Crossing Mall J.C. Penney, Jamie Edd and Shonna Wetherbee, found 66-year-old Loren Galloway collapsed in the store. They began CPR and called on mall security.

Security Officers John Hoffman and Jose Hernandez used an AED to revive Galloway and Columbus EMS transported him to Riverside Hospital.

Thomas and Mr. Galloway saluted the four for their valiant efforts at a recent council meeting.

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AIDS CITY DURING BUDGET CRUNCH

The city's financial outlook exhibited the classic "Ying/Yang" opposites attract syndrome over the last month.

In early May, City Auditor Hugh Dorrian announced that the city's revenues would be nearly \$6 million less than anticipated for four key reasons: cuts in state funding; lower than expected returns on investments; slower payments on third party EMS reimbursement; and just plain slow economic growth resulting in less income tax revenues than expected.

Council and the mayor acted quickly to balance the city's budget, shifting some expenses to gas taxes and

"If you have budget problems, how can you buy the old Northland Mall and the Train Depot?" The answer is twofold: these targeted investments pay great dividends for our families; and, bond dollars, must, by law, be used for city capital projects - they cannot be spent on day-to-day operations.

other revenue streams while also making more cuts to management salary increases, out-of-state travel, cell phones and vehicle purchases.

In part because of these prompt actions, Columbus ended the month by once again earning a "AAA" bond rating from Moody's and Standard and Poor's. The firms cited the city's "well-managed capital improvement program," its build up of "rainy day accounts" during good economic times, the low levels of debt and the growth of the local economy in presenting their ratings.

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From Page 1 STRATEGIC INVESTMENT...

These factors not only demonstrate confidence in the city's solid management strategies, but it also ensures the city garners the lowest interest rates when it seeks to borrow funds.

It's complicated to follow all these evolutions and difficult to sort out what it all means. It's even more confusing when the city continues targeting its bond monies to strengthen neighborhoods and our overall economy.

That's why folks naturally ask questions such as, "Where do you find the money to purchase the old train station on Broad Street?" and "How can you afford to buy the old Northland Mall site and re-develop it?"

The answer is twofold: these targeted investments pay great current and future dividends for our families; and, bond dollars, must, by law, be used for city capital projects - they cannot be spent as general operating funds.

Why does it make sense to preserve the old train station and Lincoln Theater? How can the old Northland Mall site boost the entire northern corridor?

Think of it like paying down early on a house mortgage or putting an addition on your house. Just like personal investments protect your family's foundation and history and are an essential part of your future success, these facilities are anchors for neighborhoods. They are wonderful ways to preserve and protect city history and future job creation engines all at the same time.

Council will continue to trim away at the dollars used to carry on the day-to-day operations of the city if it makes sense to do so. For example, Council completely eliminated its own travel budget during this last round of cuts.

SENIORS DANCE WITH DELIGHT AFTER REC CENTERS REOPEN

For too many Columbus seniors it was a long, lonely winter. Asked to take a \$1.7 million reduction in its operating budget, the Department of Recreation and Parks instituted several difficult measures including ending night and weekend hours at the Senior Recreation Centers.

Council clearly heard from the senior community that these hours were needed to offer valuable fitness and health opportunities for more than 5,000 Columbus seniors who frequent the centers.



Councilman Kevin L. Boyce chats with seniors at the Gillie Center

Working with the dedicated staff of the department, Council Recreation and Parks Committee Chairman Kevin L.

Boyce was able to announce the

reopening of senior centers on selected nights and weekends. Boyce welcomed seniors back to the Gillie Recreation Center on Saturday, May 3rd, the first weekend day it was open in three months.

Gillie will see the return of 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. hours on Saturdays and at night on Wednesdays when they have some of their most popular dances. The Janis Center has reopened Wednesday evenings for art classes and monthly band dances. The McDowell Center will again have its monthly Monday night band dance.

COUNCIL, NORTHLAND WELCOME MORSE GLEN APARTMENTS

For nearly a decade, the closed Nazarene Campgrounds on Morse Road amounted to little more



Mayor Michael Coleman and President Matt Habash present housewarming gift baskets to new residents of Morse Glen townhomes.

than a weed-infested eyesore. Now the first of many new residents have moved into Morse Glen, a garden and townhome apartment complex.

"Together, we're proving one more time that

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From Page 2 COUNCIL, NORTHLAND...

Northland is so much more than a mall," said Council President Matt Habash. "Strategic city investments will soon bring more new businesses, recreational areas and families to the whole Morse Road Corridor."

The city acquired the closed campgrounds and transferred it to Urban Growth Redevelopment Corporation. Urban Growth collaborated with Don Casto Communities and the Northland Alliance to build the new homes.

"We hope this development will help be a catalyst for the re-invention of the neighborhood, by providing new affordable housing that is also aesthetically pleasing," said Casto Partner Bill Riat.

Columbus has committed more than \$17 million in public investment along Morse Road, which has leveraged more than \$28 million from the private sector.

ON THE MOVE!

COUNCILMEMBERS INVITED TO BE PART OF MANY CITYWIDE EVENTS



Council Safety Committee Chairman Michael Mentel greets Columbus police officers after delivering remarks at the Division of Police Memorial Service at Genoa Park.



Councilmember Charleta B. Tavares meets with seniors (and their grandchildren) having lunch at the Lifecare Alliance dining program. Tavares joined health care professionals to discuss discount prescription drug programs available to seniors who struggle to pay the high prices of some medications.



Council Public Service and Transportation Committee Chair Maryellen O'Shaughnessy makes the hand off to members of the Bicycle Greenway National Relay Ride. The riders began their trip two weeks prior in Washington D.C. where Mayor Anthony Williams presented the first of many proclamations they intend to collect from cities as they complete their 27-city ride that ends August 17 in Santa Cruz, California.