



**COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Highlights for March 3, 2008**

For More Information:
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PROVIDING RESIDENTS VITAL HEALTH SERVICES: Construction of the new health center at 2300 West Broad Street is underway. Council President Pro Tem [Kevin L. Boyce](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0332-2008* which will authorize the City to enter into a \$6,139,200 contract, allowing construction of The West Side Family Health Center to begin. The center will provide medical treatment to residents of the West Side community. The equipment to provide these services was funded by earlier legislation sponsored by Councilmember Boyce (*ordinances 0047-2008* and *0060-2008*). The West Side Family Health Center will be constructed using energy efficient LEED construction standards.

COUNCIL WORKING TO SUPPORT ECONOMIC GROWTH: TechColumbus provides start-up technology-based organizations with the consultation and capital they need to successfully enter the market. Development Committee Chair [Maryellen O'Shaughnessy](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0345-2008* which will allow the City to enter into an \$188,000 contract with TechColumbus for the administration of the Entrepreneurial Signature Program (ESP). The ESP program is part of a collaborative effort between the State and City to drive economic development in Central Ohio over the next decade. Councilmember O'Shaughnessy supported this initiative with her 2008 budget amendments.

ASSISTING HOMEOWNERS IN NEED: Even with spring right around the corner, the need for home maintenance and repair services to low income elderly and disabled homeowners remains critical. Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee Chair [Charleta B. Tavares](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0355-2008* which will authorize the expenditure of \$44,500 to modify the City's contract with LifeCare Alliance and allow the organization to continue providing minor maintenance services to eligible homeowners. Examples of the services provided by the Chores Program include replacement or repair of leaking faucets and commodes, faulty light fixtures and switches, loose or missing sections of porch decking or steps, and installation of handrails, smoke detectors and deadbolt locks. Eligible homeowners may receive up to \$1,000 in home repairs within one calendar year.

NEW WATERPARK SPLASHING ON THE COLUMBUS SCENE: The Columbus Zoo is preparing to open a new attraction this summer that is sure to be hit for families and children of all ages. The 22.7 acre water park will offer patrons numerous recreational activities that will promote education and adventure. Judiciary and Court Administration Committee Chair [Hearcel F. Craig](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0356-2008* that will allow the sublease between the Columbus Zoological Park Association and Zoombezi Bay, LLC, the Zoo's water park operator, to ensue. Zoombezi Bay will be the first water park in the country to offer admission to both a zoo and water park on one ticket.

TREE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CONTINUES: Trees are an integral part in maintaining the beauty of a neighborhood. Recreation and Parks Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0321-2008* which will allow for the appropriation of \$44,486.67 to purchase trees for the City's comprehensive street tree planting program. A total of 20,000 trees will be planted by the duration of the project. A portion of the trees being purchased with the funds allocated by this legislation are large and can be planted immediately. The seeds, seedlings and bare root tree stock items that are purchased will be sent to the Recreation and Parks Nursery where they will grow and mature until they are ready to be transplanted.

PARTNERING TO END CHILDHOOD HUNGER: The Children's Hunger Alliance is dedicated to ending childhood hunger in Ohio by expanding access to food, nutrition, education and quality child care. Council President [Michael C. Mentel](#) is sponsoring *resolution 0051X-2008*, declaring March 3, 2008 as the kickoff to The Children's Hunger Alliance's week-long *Lunch Money for a Day* campaign to help end childhood hunger. On any given day, there are over 500,000 children who are hungry or at risk of hunger in the state of Ohio. Funds from *Lunch Money for a Day* help ensure nutrition and education resources are available for children, parents and youth serving organizations.

STREET LIGHTING CEREMONY: Public Safety Committee Chair [Andrew J. Ginther](#) will join Mayor Coleman and OSU President E. Gordon Gee for a street lighting ceremony near the OSU campus later this week. Details to follow.