



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Highlights for September 8, 2008

For More Information:
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COUNCIL ALREADY PREPARING FOR WINTER WEATHER: Public Service Committee Chair [Maryellen O'Shaughnessy](#) and Finance Committee Chair [Kevin L. Boyce](#) are both sponsoring legislation that will help Columbus stay one step ahead of the upcoming winter weather.



Ordinance 1330-2008, sponsored by Councilmember O'Shaughnessy, authorizes the expenditure of \$742,212 to purchase approximately 11,000 tons of rock salt.

Part of the rock salt purchase will be funded through a FEMA grant, sponsored by President Pro Tem Boyce. *Ordinance 1316-2008* will allow the city to accept the FEMA grant, issued to reimburse snow removal costs incurred during the record

snowfall in March 2008.

****Please also note that President Pro Tem Boyce has invited members of the Create Columbus Commission to provide an update of its activities to City Council. Now in its second year, the commission focuses on issues that help keep our young and talented residents in Columbus, such as arts and culture, communication and collaboration, economic development and transportation options.****

CRAIG TO RECOGNIZE OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST

MICHAEL REDD: Minority and Small Business Development Committee Chair [Hearcel F. Craig](#) will present *resolution 0161X-2008* to West Senior High graduate Michael Redd for his gold medal performance at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games. As a Buckeye, Redd led Ohio State to the NCAA Final Four. In 2000, Redd was drafted by the Milwaukee Bucks and is considered one of the top outside shooters in the NBA.

Craig will also recognize Redd's outstanding community service as founder of the Michael Redd Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to youth achievement, and the Michael Redd Basketball Camp.



SUPPORTING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES: The public health system is integral during disaster response efforts. Health, Housing and Human Services Committee Chair [Charleta B. Tavares](#) is sponsoring legislation that will equip Columbus and Franklin County to provide critical health services in the event of a bioterrorism crisis. *Ordinance 1290-2008* accepts a \$1.24 million grant for the Public Health Infrastructure program, which provides a support network between Franklin County and Columbus. *Ordinance 1291-2008* authorizes \$304,960 of the grant to maintain the program. *Ordinance 1292-2008* will increase the medical response system's pharmaceutical stock and add to the region's ability to respond in the event of exposure to biological agents, nerve agents, and radiation.

TYSON ADVOCATING COST-SAVING TECHNOLOGY: Administration Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#) is sponsoring legislation that will help reduce the City's phone service costs. *Ordinance 1289-2008* authorizes \$526,006.16 to install new voice over internet phone (VOIP) technology. VOIP can facilitate tasks and provide services that may be more difficult to implement or more expensive when using traditional phone services. The City will replace over 700 centrex phones with new VOIP phones. This conversion will reduce monthly centrex phone costs by 80%.

HELPING EMERGENCY RESPONDERS SAVE LIVES: Public Safety Committee Chair [Andrew J. Ginther](#) is co-sponsoring legislation in the Finance Committee that will provide emergency medical responders with equipment needed to deliver life-saving medications to critically ill and injured patients. *Ordinance 1286-2008* authorizes a contract to purchase EZ-IO needle sets for the Division of Fire. The EZ-IO product system allows emergency health professionals to provide quick, secure and safe delivery of lifesaving drugs and intravenous fluids to patients whose veins have collapsed as a result of trauma or dehydration.

MENTEL PROMOTING EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: Council President [Michael C. Mentel](#) is helping bolster the City's communication link with the Central Ohio Poison Center in the event of a disaster or hazardous situation with his sponsorship of *ordinance 1281-2008*. The Poison Center is one of 61 regional certified poison control operations in the United States and normally provides poison prevention, assessment, and treatment. The Poison Center also serves as a vital nexus for local, state, and federal agencies such as the Department of Homeland and therefore it is important to maintain the ability to have continuous communication in case of an emergency crisis.