



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Highlights for February 2, 2009

For More Information:
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BUDGET AMENDMENT PUBLIC MEETINGS: Columbus City Council President [Michael C. Mentel](#) has announced two more public meetings to address the proposed 2009 General Revenue Fund Budget:

- **PUBLIC BRIEFING – Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.**

City Council and the public will receive an update on 2009 revenue estimates from City Auditor Hugh J. Dorrian and a budget amendment briefing from Finance and Management Director Joel S. Taylor. This will be a comprehensive, up-to-date examination of the city's revised budget proposal, reflecting the additional \$13 million shortfall that was announced earlier this month. There will be no public comment during this meeting.

- **PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION – Thursday, February 5, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.**

The public is invited to address City Council and members of Mayor Coleman's administration on budget-related topics. Council will accept speaker request forms from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 5 and will hear from citizens based upon the order in which the speaker forms are received. Those who wish to testify before Council may complete a speaker slip at the security station located inside the Front Street entrance to City Hall. I.D. is required to enter the building. Free parking is available after 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall surface lot at Gay and Front Streets.

COUNCIL PROMOTING JOB GROWTH IN TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES: Development Committee Chair [Andrew J. Ginther](#) is sponsoring legislation to encourage the creation of new jobs in Columbus and increase employment opportunities for city residents. *Ordinance 0029-2009* authorizes a Jobs Growth Incentive agreement with Mission Essential Personnel (MEP) that will lead to the retention of 84 full-time permanent employees and an additional 108 new, permanent full-time jobs. MEP, with its global headquarters located in Columbus, is a personnel and management company that assists their clients' specialized requirements for national security and corporate objectives. In three years, the company has grown from six to more than 150 employees in the United States and more than 700 worldwide.

SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM: City Council remains dedicated to providing our snow warriors with the equipment and supplies they need to keep streets clear this winter. President Pro Tem [Hearcel F. Craig](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0106-2009* to purchase rock salt and to contract with vendors for snow and ice removal (\$530,000). In order to support operating efficiencies, county and city workers occasionally clear roads in the other's jurisdiction and this legislation will reimburse Franklin County for the snow removal services provided within Columbus (\$335,000).

OFFERING HOPE TO THOSE IN NEED: The HOPWA program helps meet the housing needs of low income individuals with HIV/AIDS. *Ordinance 0059-2009*, sponsored by Health, Housing & Human Services Committee Chair [Charleta B. Tavares](#) authorizes \$773,625 from the General Government Grants Fund to contract with the Columbus AIDS Task Force, Pater Noster House, and

Lancaster Fairfield Community Action Agency to implement HOPWA services. This legislation works in tandem with *ordinances 0055-2009* through *0058-2009* as part of a comprehensive strategy to prevent the spread of STDs and HIV/AIDS in the community and to assist those who are already impacted by these diseases.

PALEY PROMOTING TEEN DATING ABUSE PREVENTION: Judiciary and Court Administration Committee Chair Eileen Paley is sponsoring *resolution 0009X-2009* to honor the Columbus chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) for their efforts in helping reduce teen dating abuse and to recognize the first week of February as *National Teen Dating Abuse Prevention Week*. Statistics indicate that one in every three teenagers will experience an abusive dating relationship by the time they graduate from high school or college, and 10% of adolescents report being physically abused by a romantic partner. The NCJW has initiated a community-wide effort to prevent teen dating abuse through its *Love Shouldn't Hurt* program, which educates teens on how to identify the warning signs of abusive relationships, the foundations of healthy relationships, and a safe strategy to break free from harmful relationships. For more information visit, loveisrespect.org.

REC CENTER SUPPLIES AND SERVICES: Recreation and Parks Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#) remains optimistic about the future of recreation center development. *Ordinance 0107-2009*, sponsored by Councilmember Tyson, will authorize the city to transfer \$3,426,627.38 of collected donations from donors and developers for future capital use. These capital funds may not be used for operational expenses.

COUNCIL WEBSITE UPDATED: Administration Committee Chair [A. Troy Miller](#) is pleased to announce that the [City Council](#) web site has been restructured for more user-friendly access. While the web site has a new look, it still offers a wide variety of resources to keep residents informed of the issues impacting their neighborhoods. Council's meeting calendar, press releases, and Council member initiatives are just a few of the features residents will find on the site.