



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Highlights for March 2, 2009

For More Information:

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WORKING TO SAVE LIVES: Every second counts when someone is experiencing a cardiac emergency. Public Safety Committee Chair [Andrew J. Ginther](#) is sponsoring legislation to provide the Columbus Division of Fire's emergency responders with the resources they need in life-saving situations. *Ordinance 0176-2009* appropriates \$200,000 for a contract with Medtronic Emergency Response Systems for support service and operating supplies for various models of *LifePak* defibrillators, monitors, and pacemakers. An automated external defibrillator (AED) is a portable device about the size of a laptop computer, which firefighters can use at the scene of an emergency to provide a life-saving electrical current to a heart in the event of sudden cardiac arrest.

ROME-HILLIARD ROAD RENOVATIONS: One of the most heavily traveled roadways in west Columbus is receiving an extensive makeover. Engineers predict that the average daily traffic count on Rome-Hilliard Road of 30,000 cars per day is likely to increase to nearly 50,000 in the next few years. To help improve traffic flow and increase pedestrian and bike activity along the roadway, Public Service and Transportation Committee Chair [Hearcel F. Craig](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0198-2009* to allocate \$225,000 for property acquisition in the targeted area from Westchester Wood Boulevard to south of Roberts Road. In addition to road widening, the project includes more than a mile of sidewalks with *Americans with Disabilities Act*-compliant curb ramps and bike lanes for the east and west sides of the road. Construction in the area is expected to be completed by the spring of 2011.

SUPPLYING CLEAN, DEPENDABLE DRINKING WATER: The Department of Public Utilities serves more than one million people with safe, dependable drinking water, environmentally sound wastewater treatment, and storm drainage systems. *Ordinance 0208-2009*, sponsored by Public Utilities Committee Chair [Eileen Y. Paley](#), will continue the city's effort to provide the highest quality drinking water to its residents. This legislation appropriates \$3,028,890.52 for the purchase of critical water treatment chemicals to be used throughout the fiscal year.

WORKING TO PREVENT HOMELESSNESS: City Council continues working with community agencies to help those experiencing a housing crisis regain control of their lives. *Ordinance 0256-2009*, sponsored by Health, Housing & Human Services Committee Chair [Charleta B. Tavares](#), authorizes a \$2.2 million contract to maintain the city's support for homeless emergency shelters, the Maryhaven Engagement Center, related homeless shelter services, and homelessness prevention and transition services. These programs have enabled individuals and families who are homeless or facing the threat of being on the streets to find solutions to their housing needs.

SUPPORTING NEW DOG SHELTER: Zoning Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#) is sponsoring legislation that will allow Franklin County to initiate development of a new dog shelter at 1865 Morse Road. *Ordinance 2037-2008* will grant a council variance to authorize an animal shelter with outdoor runs, cages, and structures for open air confinement of animals in the current C-4, Commercial District. The outdoor activities for the animals are required to be supervised, with group activities permitted until 8:00 p.m. and individual animal activities until 9:00 p.m. Site design and use restrictions make the proposed animal shelter with outdoor runs compatible with existing uses in the area. The county also has requested a reduction of the required number of parking spaces. The site is located within the boundaries of the *Northland Plan: Volume I* (2001), which recommends that the area be redeveloped as a mixed-use site.

PROVIDING EFFICIENT HEALTH SERVICES: Administration Committee Chair [A. Troy Miller](#) is sponsoring ordinance 0191-2009 to renew a contract with Mount Carmel Health Systems for billing and information system software. The medical management system, called *NextGen Healthcare*, assists the Columbus Public Health Department in operating five major clinical operations. The upgraded software enables an extensive array of streamlined services, including patient registration, appointment scheduling, monitoring and tracking of patient test results, processing medical records, and generating reports to help manage clinic operations.



MENTEL HONORING BOY SCOUTS: The Boy Scouts of America has been instilling a strong sense of leadership, service, and community for millions of youngsters across the country for nearly a century. To honor the incredible impact the Scouts have made throughout their years of service, City Council President [Michael C. Mentel](#) has invited Boy Scout Troop and Cub Scout Pack #613 to open this week's meeting with a flag ceremony. The Boy Scouts of America will conduct flag ceremonies in their service areas throughout the year, leading up to the celebration of their 100th anniversary on February 8, 2010.

MEETINGS OF NOTE:

**Wednesday, March 4 Councilmember Tavares will host Cora Taylor-Wallace, an employment specialist with the AARP Foundation at the Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee meeting. The meeting will begin at 5:30 in Council Chambers.*

**Thursday, March 5 Columbus City Councilmember Andrew J. Ginther, Chair of the Development Committee, and Councilmember Eileen Y. Paley, Chair of the Public Utilities Committee, will conduct a public briefing to discuss the history and implantation of the Big Darby Accord. The public meeting will provide a forum to explain the development and key elements of the 2006 Accord Plan, progress made towards implementation and background information relevant to legislation pending before Columbus City Council. This meeting begins at 5 PM, not 5:30 as previously indicated.*