



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Highlights for April 20, 2009

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RIVER SOUTH DEVELOPMENT: The effort to revitalize the River South district continues with *ordinance 0438-2009* introduced by Public Service & Transportation Committee Chair [Hearcel F. Craig](#). The legislation authorizes a cost reimbursement agreement with Lifestyle Communities, and the expenditure of up to \$605,415.14 for public right-of-way improvements that will maximize the use of public and private resources in the River South area. The improvements will include concrete sidewalks, ADA-compliant curb ramps, detectable warning surface, brick pavers, and landscaping on Wall Street, Ludlow Street, Rich Street, and Front Street, and electrical conduit and a manhole on Walnut Street.

PROTECTING FIRE FIGHTERS: Members of the Columbus Division of Fire respond to a variety of dangerous and volatile situations, requiring special protective gear. Public Safety Committee Chair [Andrew J. Ginther](#) and Council President [Michael C. Mentel](#) are advancing *ordinance 0592-2009* to purchase replacement ballistic vests for Fire Fighters and emergency service personnel. These bullet proof vests are similar to those worn by police officers, but are adjustable and are assigned to certain fire and emergency response vehicles, rather than to individuals. Councilmember Ginther is also sponsoring *ordinance 0513-2009* to purchase seven front-line emergency response vehicles for use by Columbus Fire Battalion Chiefs during critical incidents to serve as command centers and to transport additional equipment.

CONTINUING SUPPORT OF THE CHORES PROGRAM: The Chores Program provides minor home maintenance and repair services to low and moderate-income elderly and disabled homeowner-occupants. Health, Housing, & Human Services Committee Chair [Charleta B. Tavares](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0548-2009* to enter into \$100,000 worth of contracts with various non-profit organizations to support the operation of the program. Examples of program services include replacement or repair of kitchen and bathroom leaks, faulty light fixtures and switches, loose or missing sections of porch decking or steps, and installation of handrails, smoke detectors and deadbolt locks. This program will assist approximately 100 households.

GREENER ATHLETIC FIELDS: Underneath many city athletic fields are tons of tires. The Spindler Road Sports Complex on the west side will become the latest facility to have a layer of ground tires used as an additive to help with natural grass aeration and prevent wear over the course of time. *Ordinance 0445-2009*, sponsored by Recreation and Parks Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#), will utilize a state grant to purchase crumb rubber materials for installation at the Spindler complex. One automobile tire can be turned into 10-12 pounds of crumb rubber.

PLAN IN PLACE FOR BIG DARBY: The Big Darby Accord Master Plan was developed collaboratively by the jurisdictions within the Big Darby Watershed in Franklin County as a land use plan that balances environmental protection and responsible growth. *Ordinance 0320-2008*, sponsored by Utilities Committee Chair [Eileen Y. Paley](#), will enact the Big Darby Accord Master Plan 2008. This legislation will allow the City to enter into contract with Franklin County to extend water and sewer service by the City of Columbus to certain areas within the Big Darby Accord Planning Area.

MILLER HONORS HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS: Councilmember [A. Troy Miller](#), chair of the Administration Committee, will present *resolution 0039X-2009* to the Ingram family, owners of the White Castle restaurant chain, for their numerous charitable contributions to the Columbus community during the annual *American Red Cross of Greater Columbus Humanitarian of the Year Luncheon*. The event will take place *Wednesday, April 22 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.*

CREATING COLUMBUS COMMONS: The Capitol South Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation's plan to transform City Center Mall into more developable land and green space is set to take the next step forward. *Ordinance 0569-2009* on this evening's agenda will allow Capitol South, the non-profit group that has a long-term lease with the City for the site, to enter into agreements to help finance the dismantling of the mall and construction of the nine-acre *Columbus Commons* park. It is important to note that no general revenue funds are planned for the funding of this project. Capitol South, which has the mission to redevelop the site, will begin the administrative process needed to secure private financing with authorization from City Council. The park is expected to be completed by the fall of 2010.