



**COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL**  
**Agenda Highlights for June 15, 2009**

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**COUNCIL TO VOTE ON 2009 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BUDGET:** Council President [Michael C. Mentel](#) will introduce the 2009 capital improvements budget (CIB) for Council's consideration. The adoption of the proposal, as submitted in *ordinance 0806-2009*, represents only 10% of the original capital budget under consideration at the beginning of the year for non-enterprise fund divisions. Originally, the special income tax (SIT) – which is the quarter of all income tax revenue set aside to pay for capital infrastructure improvements throughout the city – was anticipated to support a \$239.1 million capital budget in 2009. Due to declining income tax receipts as a result of the faltering national economy, the city has the capacity to issue just \$24.1 million for capital projects, a reduction of approximately 90%. The only SIT-supported projects included in the 2009 CIB are repayments to the SIT for money borrowed last year for certain critical projects, prior obligations established through legal agreements, prior commitments which leverage substantial state and federal funds, and very small amounts for critical infrastructure maintenance and improvements. Consequently, the city does not have the capacity to budget SIT funds for road resurfacing, fire apparatus replacement, refuse collection trucks and containers, bridge and roadway infrastructure improvements, sidewalks and bikeways improvements.

**MILLER PROMOTING HIGH-TECH FLEET:** The *Fleet Focus* software application provides a high-tech system for the Fleet Management Division to bill, manage, monitor and analyze all maintenance-related data for city-owned vehicles. Administration Committee Chair [A. Troy Miller](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0610-2009* to modify and extend a contract in the amount of \$139,444.95 for the annual renewal license and critical updates to the application. *Fleet Focus* gives the Fleet Management Division the ability to provide accountability by tracking an unlimited number of city-owned fleet equipment such as refuse trucks, fire apparatus, compost graders and various on-road vehicles to support the daily operational requirements of city government.

**CITY PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITY TO KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL:** Columbus is gearing up for a fast food litter awareness promotion and abatement campaign set to kick-off in the Spring of 2010 to clean up highway ramps and neighborhood intersections. Public Service & Transportation Committee Chair [Hearcel F. Craig](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0763-2009* to apply for a \$10,000 grant and to authorize the grant, if it is awarded, to fund the initiative. In addition to giving roadsides a blighted look, fast food litter pollutes waterways when swept into rivers and streams. Fast food litter also can wash into storm sewers, blocking catch basins and pipes, which leads to flooding during heavy rains.

**PROMOTING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND LITERACY:** Workforce Development Chair [Charleta B. Tavares](#) is sponsoring legislation that will help increase adult literacy in Columbus. *Ordinance 0621-2009* authorizes contracts with the Columbus Literacy Council for workforce development and literacy activities for \$55,500 and with Columbus Works for workforce development and computer skills training for \$23,989 for a one year period. A total of \$79,489 has been allocated to fund social service programs through the Public Service Competitive Fund allocation of the 2009 CDBG Fund.

**CELEBRATING NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY:** With its roots firmly in the settlement house movement, Neighborhood House, Inc. has a century-long tradition of helping children, families, and adults achieve economic stability and self-sufficiency. Judiciary & Court Administration Committee Chair [Eileen Y. Paley](#) is sponsoring *resolution 0092X-2009* to recognize the organization's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Neighborhood House has been a vital partner with the city of Columbus, most recently through the "Mothers and Diabetes" program and also by assuming operational responsibility for Sawyer Recreation Center.

**SUPPORTING ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION:** Recreation & Parks Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0822-2009* to grant consent and propose cooperation for the creation of a state-funded bike path along US-33 that will connect to the existing bike path at the I-670/Grandview Interchange. The project will also include the construction of two bridges over the Scioto River. This connection was a commitment as part of the Spring/Sandusky projects in the 1990's. The state of Ohio requires a local entity to consent to maintain the bikeway once it is completed and accepted. Construction is scheduled to begin in August of 2010.

**GINTHER PROVIDING NEW UNIFORMS FOR POLICE:** Public Safety Committee Chair [Andrew J. Ginther](#) continues his support for Columbus' safety forces through his sponsorship of *ordinance 0779-2009*. This legislation will appropriate \$451,507.38 to purchase uniforms for Columbus' police officers and some civilian employees. The majority of this expenditure (\$400,000) will be supported by the 2009 General Fund budget. The balance of the expenditure (\$51,507.38) will be supplied through grant and seizure funds. The Division of Police budgeted approximately \$1 million in the 2009 Police General Fund budget for uniforms.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS OF NOTE:**

- ✓ Councilmember Ginther will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 16, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers to discuss legislation establishing commercial overlays for portions of the following corridors: Bethel and Sawmill Roads in Northwest Columbus; Fifth and Cleveland Avenues in Milo-Grogan; Broad and Main Streets in Eastmoor; and the Lockbourne Road corridor on the South Side.
  
- ✓ Councilmember Tyson will take part in the re-opening ceremony for Krumm Park Recreation Center (854 Alton Ave.) on Wednesday, June 17, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. A unique public-private partnership between the Recreation and Parks Department, East Columbus Civic Association, and the Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation has made the re-opening possible.