



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL Agenda Highlights for July 20, 2009

For More Information:

John Ivanic, Communications Director
(614) 645-6798

[Web](#) – [Facebook](#) – [Twitter](#)

GREATER EFFICIENCIES AND CUSTOMER SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED FOR MUNICIPAL CLERK'S OFFICE: In an ongoing effort to increase efficiencies and save city resources, Judiciary & Court Administration Committee Chair [Eileen Y. Paley](#) is sponsoring legislation to install two kiosks in the Franklin County Municipal Clerk of Court's office, allowing users to pay traffic fines electronically. *Ordinance 0998-2009* will appropriate \$16,000 from the Public Safety Initiative Fund and authorize Municipal Court Clerk Lori M. Tyack to use the money to purchase the kiosks. Tyack also plans to work with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles later this fall to enable the kiosks to provide a more convenient way for customers to pay license reinstatement fees. The fees normally associated with using this service will be paid by the consumer, saving the city an estimated \$100,000 in processing costs.

CRAIG SUPPORTING PRIVATE INVESTMENT ALONG HIGH STREET CORRIDOR: Columbus is prepared to sell a city-owned parcel to Kroger to help support the company's plans to redevelop their property located at 1350 North High Street. *Ordinance 1527-2008*, sponsored by Public Service & Transportation Committee Chair [Hearcel F. Craig](#), will authorize the city to transfer the right-of-way to The Kroger Company. The Land Review Commission has valued the 20-foot wide alley at \$16,278. Kroger's is planning a major redevelopment investment at King and High and this parcel will allow them to build a new store closer to the street. Through Kroger's commitment and work with neighborhood stakeholders, the new store will provide continuity at this important anchor intersection that connects the Short North to The Ohio State University area.

BROWNFIELD REVITALIZATION: The redevelopment of the Gowdy North project site continues with Development Committee Chair [Andrew J. Ginther's](#) sponsorship of *ordinance 1022-2009*. In 2008, Gowdy Partners III, LLC was awarded \$3,000,000 for a Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund Grant for brownfield remediation of the former Gowdy Field landfill. Terms of the grant application included a \$500,000 contribution by the city of Columbus to be used for *pre-remediation* activities. This legislation authorizes the grant match required by the application. Once redeveloped, the Gowdy North site will spur economic growth by providing additional offices and other facilities for The Ohio State University Medical Center.

INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY AT CARRIAGE PLACE PARK: Recreation & Parks Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#) is working with the community to install a universally accessible play structure at Carriage Place Park. *Ordinance 0979-2009*, sponsored by Tyson, will authorize the expenditure of \$75,000 in private grants made available by the Henry C. Coyle fund at the Columbus Foundation as well as \$75,000 in capital funds to purchase a universally accessible play structure for the park. The community was involved with the selection of the contractor as well as the design of the play equipment. The equipment will be installed by the community with contractor supervision while the rubberized safety surface and base material will be installed by the contractor. A universally accessible playground is specifically designed to be accessible to all children, including those with disabilities.

SUPPORTING MOTHERS AND INFANTS: Health, Housing & Human Services Committee Chair [Charleta B. Tavares](#) is sponsoring legislation that will provide health promotional services to help reduce infant mortality. *Ordinance 0912-2009* will authorize the Board of Health to enter into a \$34,049 contract with the Council On Healthy Mothers and Babies to provide health education/promotion for the Healthy Start grant program. The Council On Healthy Mothers and Babies will provide educational services, support the Local Health System Action Plan, hold public forums, meetings, committees, prenatal care committees, and link pregnant women with appropriate providers through Pregnancy Care Connection.

MILLER ENSURING FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: Administration Committee Chair [A. Troy Miller](#) is working to ensure the city of Columbus continues to maintain impeccable accounting records. *Ordinance 0900-2009* authorizes the expenditure of \$338,000 to enter into an agreement with Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co., Certified Public Accountants, for professional auditing services for calendar year 2009. The audit agreement covers 5 years (2006-2010) with each year being subject to the authorizing appropriation of Council. This 2009 ordinance represents the fourth year of this five-year cycle. By law, all political subdivisions of Ohio are required to be audited by the Auditor of the State of Ohio or her designee. Fifteen percent of this contract will be subcontracted to a minority firm of certified public accountants.

MENTEL TO ATTEND DEDICATION OF OHIO DOMINICAN'S NEW STUDENT CENTER: Council President [Michael C. Mentel](#) is sponsoring *resolution 0108X-2009*, recognizing the official opening of *The Bishop James A. Griffin Student Center* at Ohio Dominican University. The new student center will create a community that will serve the physical, academic, and spiritual needs of Ohio Dominican students. Ohio Dominican University is a four-year liberal arts institution on the northeast side of Columbus, founded in 1911 in the Catholic and Dominican tradition.