



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Highlights for October 19, 2009

For More Information:

John Ivanic, Communications Director
(614) 645-6798

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

PALEY SUPPORTING HOMELESS VETERANS AT 2009 STAND DOWN: City Councilmember [Eileen Y. Paley](#) will join veterans and dozens of social service agencies for the *15th Annual Central Ohio Stand Down* on **Tuesday, October 20, 2009** from **8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at **Veteran's Memorial, 300 W. Broad Street**. The annual event provides homeless veterans with a wide range of necessities including food, clothing, health screenings, employment and housing assistance, mental health counseling, and veteran benefits information. Columbus is home to over 110,000 veterans who have made great sacrifices for our country.

ENCOURAGING EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS GROWTH IN COLUMBUS: The Central Ohio Minority Business Association (COMBA) is a non-profit agency which provides entrepreneurial development assistance and high-end business consulting free of charge to start-up and emerging business owners on a non-discriminatory basis. Minority and Small Business Development Committee Chair [Hearcel F. Craig](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 1312-2009* to authorize the Department of Development to enter into an agreement with the Central Ohio Minority Business Association to increase employment opportunities and business growth in Columbus. During the last two years, COMBA has provided consulting services to over 2700 business people, resulting in the creation of 216 new jobs and the retention of 481 jobs.

IMPROVING 911 EMERGENCY CALL DISPATCHING: Calling 911 will soon be more efficient for area residents. Safety Committee Chair [Andrew J. Ginther](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 1292-2009* to purchase and install a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system for the Police and Fire Communications Center. The \$7.2 million system will dramatically assist in the processing of emergency calls from the public by electronically moving pertinent data to the proper field personnel over voice or data communications. The new CAD interfaces with existing technologies and will include a base system with mobile environment features, a Fire RMS (record management system), automated false alarm billing, and a back-up communications center.

PARTNERING TO PREVENT TRUANCY IN COLUMBUS: *Ordinance 1300-2009* sponsored by Health and Human Services Committee Chair [Charleta B. Tavares](#) authorizes the acceptance of \$100,000 grant from the Columbus Board of Education for the support of a truancy prevention and intervention program. The funds will be used to create a community-based program that seeks to reduce truancy through education, case management and other interventions with the YMCA of Central Ohio. The program meets the Senate Bill 181 mandate to provide truancy intervention for habitual and chronic truants. Columbus City Schools will be responsible for acquainting the school system and the community with the program and Columbus Police Officers will transport truant students to the designated truancy centers and serve as the fiduciary for the length of the contract.

MILLER CONTINUES HIS SUPPORT OF E-GOV INITIATIVES: Administration Committee Chair [A. Troy Miller](#) continues to emphasize the implementation of technology updates and enhancements to create efficiencies and a more user-friendly system for residents who use city services. The latest effort is *ordinance 1131-2009*, which authorizes a modification of an existing contract with COMSYS to enhance and update the city's current web environment and e-Gov services. Thousands of area residents utilize the city of Columbus web site for information and to schedule city services.

CONTINUING SENIOR SERVICES: The Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging serves thousands of senior citizens with the help of several dozen partner agencies. *Ordinance 1314-2009*, sponsored by Councilmember [Priscilla R. Tyson](#), allows the Recreation and Parks Department to utilize \$6,103,215 in federal and state grants from the Ohio Department of Aging to fund the continuation of services to older adults in the Columbus area. This legislation authorizes thirty-two community services contracts for the provision of meals, adult day care, homemaker, personal care, transportation, home repair and legal services for the 2010 calendar year.

[Click here](#) for a complete list of agencies receiving funding.

KEEPING THE OHIO THEATER A SOURCE OF CIVIC PRIDE: Since opening in 1928, the Ohio Theater has served as an entertainment venue for hundreds of thousands of people. With the continued assistance of City Council, many more will be able to enjoy the theater's offerings for decades to come. Council President [Michael C. Mentel](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 1295-2009* to appropriate \$66,668 from the Urban Development Assistance Grant (UDAG) fund for the immediate and long-term maintenance of the theater. The use of the UDAG funds to help cover annual maintenance costs of the Ohio Theater was included in a 30-year agreement made between the city and the Columbus Association for the Performing Arts (CAPA) in 1982.