



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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FIGHTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING: Councilmember Zach M. Klein is sponsoring ordinance 2769-2015, which would add to the number of current convictions by which the License Section can deny an application to operate a massage or bath establishment inside the city limits. The legislation will add as additional reasons that one cannot operate a massage or bath establishment in the city convictions of trafficking in persons, corrupting another with drugs and drug trafficking. Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery where people profit from the control and exploitation of others. During City Council hearings on the matter, evidence was presented regarding the correlation between the operation of some massage parlors and bathhouses and trafficking in persons.

GOING GREEN: Councilmember Fran Ryan offers ordinance 2740-2015. The legislation will allow the city to enter into a contract for the purchase of 6 Rear Loader Refuse Trucks with compressed natural gas from Columbus Peterbilt and to establish funding for Division of Refuse Collection personnel to inspect the vehicles during the manufacturing and to authorize the expenditure of \$1.3 million in connection with the project. Switching to natural gas can lead to significant gas savings for the city.

ENHANCING PARK ASSETS: Councilmember Jaiza Page is sponsoring ordinance 2589-2015 that will authorize the Director of the Recreation and Parks Department to enter into a contract with Thomas & marker Construction Co. for the restoration of the historically significant Richards House. The Richards House will be renamed the Gregory S. Lashutka Event Center. The House was built in 1816 by the Richards family and was purchased by the city of Columbus in 1904 for use during the construction of Griggs Dam. The \$2.1 million project will expand the existing building to 5,492 square feet and create a facility that can be rented out by the Recreation and Parks Department.

CELEBRATEONE: Councilmembers will consider ordinance 2669-2015. The measure will authorize and direct the Board of Health to accept funds from the United Health Foundation for \$1.7 million to support the implementation of the CelebrateOne Community Connector Corps project. Columbus Public Health has been awarded the funding from the United Health Foundation. The project will implement community health workers in eight distinct neighborhoods within Franklin County with a goal to reduce infant mortality. This is a project that was spearheaded under the leadership of Mayor-elect Andrew J. Ginther, the council president.