



Short North Civic Association Minutes

October 2, 2025

6:00 p.m. Thompson Recreation Center

Attendees: Jared Cape, Bob Stern, Jack Decker, Robin Keaffaber, Sergeant Eric Taylor, Steve Hurtt, Caroline Stinziano, Chuck Fairbanks, Jeff Smith, Councilmember Pro Temp Dorans, Elliot Dorans, Ellyn Briggs, Andrea McDonald, Debra Zinger

- **Welcome** – Jack Decker
- **CPD Report** – Sergeant Eric Taylor
 - There have been a number of car break-ins overnight on streets, not really parking garages.
 - There are gaps to get unhoused people longer term care.
 - High Street and 4th Ave has been a problem area.
 - He suggested considering parking restrictions to address incidents revolving around folks lingering by their cars.
 - He additionally highlighted the need for court reform and extra resources to quell repeat offenders.
 - It was also suggested that more lighting would be helpful to deter criminal activity.
 - Sergeant Taylor provided his work cell: 614-852-8586.
- **At Home By High Pickleball Fundraiser**
 - Elyn Briggs, board member of At Home By High, promoted [a pickleball tournament fundraiser](#) on October 12, 2025 in Goodale Park to support critical services & companionship for older adults (ages 50+) in the Short North and surrounding areas.
- **Councilmember Pro Temp Dorans**
 - CM Dorans detailed his seven years on the Council and his work as the Chair for the Zoning Committee and Education, Workforce, and Labor Committee.
 - Specifically he discussed the Zone In project to modernize city zoning. The first phase focused on commercial corridors (~4% of the city). The second phase is ongoing and will target ~40% of the city. The third phase will focus on remaining predominantly residential areas of the city sometime in 2027/2028.
 - He mentioned that the City is looking to do a comprehensive plan rather than a multitude of neighborhood plans that are inconsistently updated.
 - CM Dorans stressed the need to connect capital budget investments to match growth.
 - Columbus City Council announced Columbus Forward which seeks to address a

series of quality of life issues:

- ADU reform
- Pay transparency
- Enabling housing on land owned by places of worship
- Short term rentals regulation
- Examining historical preservation rules
- Construction impact mitigation
- Sustainable funding for homeless shelters and other services
- Youth program analysis
- Questions on transportation lead CM Dorans to discuss LinkUS. Specifically, he touched on bus rapid transit (BRT) lines, increased COTA frequency, and transit supportive infrastructure investments such as pedestrian and bike infrastructure. He also answered a question about BRT coming to High Street. CM Dorans said that there is not a firm answer on that yet.
- The status of the CBUS Circulator was raised. CM Dorans noted that there is a discussion. COTA is having trouble finding drivers. It just signed a collective bargaining agreement that adds pay and improves working conditions. This has allowed them to retain and recruit folks. COTA may choose to resurrect this service in the future.
- A question circling back to directing capital investments was asked. CM Dorans suggested submitting 311 requests. The Council is working on a strategic plan and is also looking to do participatory budgeting next year. The Council is working on breaking down administrative silos to best support capital investments.
- Concerns about ADUs were raised. CM Dorans highlighted the issues with policing private property. Certain operators have allowed their short-term rentals (STRs) to be party houses. There have been issues related to this. Hotels currently have agreements that allow CPD to address concerns. Council is looking to require STRs to enter into this agreement as well. There are legal concerns with banning STRs in new ADUs so the City is working to curb bad actors.
- It was asked how Zone In Phase 3 interacts with historic preservation. CM Dorans noted that this is what his Columbus Forward initiative seeks to address. Under it, a firm would be hired to look at what other places are doing historical preservation and what is going on in CBUS. Based on this study, the City would look to change processes in a way that is thoughtful about how the City should move forward. CM Dorans recently talked to Columbus Landmarks interim CEO. One of the concerns they hope to address are iconic historic landmarks with status that do not have protections since they are not in historically protected areas.
- Concerns about high speeds and the need for traffic calming in our neighborhoods were raised. CM Dorans noted that folks respond to the built environment. Based on the historic neighborhoods, some of the regular interventions are already accomplished so the changes might be more granular/bespoke to address issues.
- **President's Report – Jack Decker**
 - The SNCA is looking for board members, please let Jack know if you or someone you know is interested.
- **Adjournment at 7:22 pm**