



# City of Columbus

Office of City Clerk  
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columbuscitycouncil.org

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 0214X-2022, **Version:** 1

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To celebrate and thank Francine Ryan for her contributions and service to Columbus and Central Ohio.

**WHEREAS**, the members of Columbus City Council are proud to offer this resolution of expression honoring the legacy of leadership, service, and courage illustrated by Mrs. Francine Ryan, affectionately known as 'Fran' for her selfless advocacy for Columbus and Central Ohio; and

**WHEREAS**, Fran has been an essential part of the growth of Columbus since the late 1950's - over the years she has developed a reputation for having the unique ability to mobilize support around community visions committed to making Columbus one of the most livable cities in America; and

**WHEREAS**, Fran was elected to Columbus City Council in 1971, serving two terms; as a member of Council, Fran chaired the Community Services Committee and co-chaired the Revenue Sharing Task Force - she also served on several committees dedicated to improving the quality of life for Columbus residents, including safety, development planning, and citizen participation - Fran also served as a member of the Franklin County Commission; Columbus City Clerk; and later became the first woman to serve as Chair of the Franklin County Democratic Party - Fran also has the distinction of being appointed by President Jimmy Carter to serve as a Midwest Regional Representative to the United States Department of Labor; and

**WHEREAS**, Fran helped to found the Franklin County Metropolitan Human Services Commission - assisting vulnerable populations, increasing access to basic healthcare, and helping to reduce juvenile and adult behavioral health problems - she helped to establish the City's landlord-tenant rights and responsibilities policy which became state law; and sponsored legislation to protect children from lead paint poisoning and more - her work with the Senior Services Roundtable of Columbus and Franklin County helped the organization to grow into an information center with more than 900 members focusing on programs and services for the aging - this effort also led to her co-chairing the National Age-Friendly Initiative and founding the Senior Festival which brings thousands of seniors and vendors together for information sharing - Fran was also inducted into the City of Columbus Hall of Fame in 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, Fran is an inspiration to the residents of Columbus and Central Ohio - and the City is proud to celebrate Fran's service to this community by breaking ground on the new Fran Ryan Center which will be located in Old Towne East - the center will become the new home for the Golden Hobby Gift Shop and programs previously offered at the Martin Janis Community Senior Center and will include a community park, expanded creative arts programming and wellness activities; now therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:**

That this Council does hereby celebrate and thank Francine Ryan for her contributions and service to Columbus and Central Ohio.