

Council Members

R. Gary Allen
Charmaine Crabb

Travis L. Chambers
Glenn Davis

Byron Hickey
Bruce Huff

R. Walker Garrett
Toyia Tucker

John Anker
Joanne Cogle

Clerk of Council
Lindsey G. McLemore



Council Chambers
C. E. "Red" McDaniel City Services Center- Second Floor
3111 Citizens Way, Columbus, GA 31906

April 14, 2026
9:00 AM
Regular Meeting

MAYOR'S AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Presiding

INVOCATION: Offered by Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards - St. Thomas Episcopal Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Skip Henderson

MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes for the March 31, 2026, Consent Agenda / Work Session and Executive Session.

PROCLAMATIONS

2. **Proclamation:** Jubilee Freedom Day

Receiving: Johnnie Warner, Aaron Guest, Sr., and Spencer High School Students

3. **Proclamation:** Arts & Culture Month

Receiving: Carrie Beth Wallace, Founder and Editor-in-Chief of The Columbusite

4. **Proclamation:** Ridgecrest Rehab & Skilled Nursing Center Recognition Day

Receiving: Jennifer Kelley, Administrator of Ridgecrest

5. **Proclamation:** Georgia Cities Week

Receiving: Teasha Hollis, Director of Communications & Community Affairs, City Manager's Office

6. **Proclamation:** Fair Housing Month

Receiving: John Bunn, Jerry Tucker, and Anthony Montgomery

PRESENTATIONS

7. National Travel and Tourism Week, May 3-9, 2026 – Presented by: Ashley Woitena, President-CEO of VisitColumbusGA

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

1. **1st Reading:** REZN-07-25-1259: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **6821 Mobley Road** (parcel # 190-014-020) from Single Family Residential – 1 (SFR1) Zoning District to Single Family Residential – 2 (SFR2) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.)(Councilor Davis)
2. **1st Reading:** REZN-02-26-0189: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **5306 Buena Vista Road** (parcel # 095-045-019) from Single Family Residential – 2 (SFR2) Zoning District to Residential Multifamily – 1 (RMF1) Zoning District with conditions. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.)(Councilor Tucker)
3. **1st Reading:** REZN-02-26-0346: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **9055 Veterans Parkway** (parcel # 079-001-034) from Residential Office (RO) Zoning District to Residential Estate - 1 (RE1)(Planning Department and PAC recommend approval)(Councilor Davis)

RESOLUTIONS

4. A resolution approving a Special Exception to allow for a Tattoo Studio in the existing building located at **1023 Broadway** located in the Central Riverfront (CRD) zoning district. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.)(Councilor Cogle)

PUBLIC AGENDA

1. Mr. Timothy Veals, Re: School Zone Signs, Neighborhood Property Owners, Responsibility of Landlords to Clean Up Properties
2. Mr. Joshua Broomfield, Re: Inclusion of Local and Minority Businesses in Major Projects.
3. Mr. Paul Olson, Re: Public Agenda, Open Meetings Act, and the Planning Advisory Commission (PAC).
4. Mr. Gregory Foster, Re: The Ugly Truth About the *Stop Hypercycle Data Centers in Muscogee County Group*.
5. Mr. Daniel Veach, Re: Proposed Data Center.
6. Mrs. Jessica Warchal, Re: Who are the purveyors of misinformation?
7. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Correct Care, Crime Prevention Department Reforms. (*Referral from Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities*)
8. Mr. Joshua Ferguson, Re: Business Development, Public Goods, and the Signal that Columbus Sends.
9. Mr. Scott Johnson, Re: Proposed Data Center for AI.
10. Mr. Matthew Davidson, Re: Inconsistencies in Zoning Overlay for Data Center.
11. Ms. Sophia Rother, Re: Moratorium or Send to Ballot – Zoning Overlay for Data Center.
12. Dr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Board Appointment Concerns.
13. Dr. Natalie Nicole, representing Role Model Academy, Re: Fight Blight Columbus, GA Initiative.
14. Ms. Inja Gordon, representing Haygood (Boxing Gym) Recreation Center, Re: Community Legacy, Exposure & Athletic Funding, and Accessibility Alignment.
15. Ms. Pamela Mulvaney, Re: Data Center, Tech and Environmental Concerns.
16. Ms. Patricia Stephens, Re: Patterns in Economics.
17. Mrs. Debra Jarzomjoski, Re: Contradictions of Politics.
18. Mrs. Darlene Laird, Re: Proposed Technology Overlay District.
19. Mr. Val McGowan, Re: Civility and Good Trouble.

20. Mrs. Audrey Holston Palmore, Re: Heir Property.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Sidewalk and Maintenance Easement Deed for Additional Right-of-Way Adjacent to Manchester Expressway and Armour Road

Approval is requested to accept two Easement Deeds for Sidewalks: 1) from the Columbus Airport Commission, being in that portion of Land Lot 48 of the 8th District, 27.14 sq. ft. 0.001 Acres, adjacent to Manchester Expressway, 2) from the Baynes Family LLC, being in that portion of Land Lot 48, 8th District, 290.88 Sq. Feet 0.007 Acres adjacent to Manchester Expressway, and 609.22 Sq. Feet 0.014 Acres Adjacent to Armour Road southwest property line.

2. Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Grant Program

Approval is requested for the to apply for, accept, and expend any awarded funds as per the grant guidelines and City regulations, if awarded, a grant from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation grant program that provides lifesaving equipment and prevention education tools to first responders and public safety organizations, in the amount of \$40,000, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match required, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund budget by the amount of the award.

3. PURCHASES

- A. Construction Manager as General Contractor Services for Public Safety Building Renovations – RFP No. 26-0016
- B. Provision and Installation of Lighting Upgrade for Cooper Creek Tennis Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase
- C. Memorandum of Agreement for Mental Health Services for Muscogee County Prison
- D. Retrofit/Upgrade of Bomb Squad Robot for EMA/Homeland Security

4. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Parks & Recreation Update - Holli Browder, Director Parks & Recreation

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

1. **Resignation:** Correspondence received from Avianca C. Dowdell, resigning from her seat on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (KCBC).
2. **Travel Authorization Request:** Approval is requested for Councilor Toyia Tucker to attend the 2026 ACCG Annual Conference, scheduled for April 23-26, 2026.

3. **Minutes of the following boards:**

Board of Historic and Architectural Review 12-11-23

Board of Historic and Architectural Review 07-08-24, 10-15-24

Board of Historic and Architectural Review 09-08-25, 10-14-25

Board of Tax Assessors #10-26, 11-26, 12-26

Board of Water Commissioners 02-09-26

Development Authority of Columbus 02-12-26, 02-24-26

New Horizon Behavioral Health 01-13-20, 04-13-20, 05-11-20, 06-08-20, 07-13-20, 11-09-20, 12-14-20

New Horizon Behavioral Health 01-09-23, 02-13-23, 03-13-23, 05-08-23, 06-12-23, 08-14-23, 09-11-23, 10-09-23, 12-11-23

New Horizon Behavioral Health 09-09-24, 10-14-24, 12-09-24

BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED

4. **MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS – ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:**

- A. **PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES' BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

Vacant
(Business Community)
Term Expires: June 30, 2026

Open for Nominations
(Mayor's Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	4 Year	Term Limit: n/a
Meetings:	Monthly – 1 st Wednesday	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 9
Vacancies:	1	Senatorial District 29: 2

5. NOMINATIONS – CONFIRMED BY COUNCIL:

A. AIRPORT COMMISSION:

Vacant

Term Expires: December 31, 2026

**The Airport Commission has submitted Daria Cruzen for confirmation.*

Waiting on Nominee
(Confirmed by Council)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	5 Year	Term Limit: n/a
Meetings:	Monthly – 4 th Wednesday	
Women:	1	Senatorial District 15: 3
Vacancies:	1	Senatorial District 29: 1

B. HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (BHAR):

Vacant

Columbus Homebuilders Association

Term Expires: January 31, 2028

Waiting on Nominee
(Confirmed by Council)

Vacant

Uptown Business Association

Term Expires: January 31, 2029

**Alan Udy is unable to serve currently. (Confirmed 02-10-2026)*

Waiting on Nominee
(Confirmed by Council)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	3 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Monthly – 2 nd Monday	
Women:	5	Senatorial District 15: 7
Vacancies:	1	Senatorial District 29: 2

6. NOMINATIONS – READY FOR CONFIRMATION:

- A. DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:** Laura Gower was nominated to serve another term. New term expires: 04/30/2030 (*Mayor Pro Tem Allen*)
- B. DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:** Doug Jenkins was nominated to serve another term. New term expires: 04/30/2030 (*Mayor Pro Tem Allen*)

7. COUNCIL DISTRICT SEAT APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:

A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

_____ Open for Nominations
Vacant (*District 1 – Hickey*)
 Term Expires: March 27, 2026

Tracy Belt Open for Nominations
Not Eligible (*District 4 -Tucker*)
 Term Expires: March 27, 2026

_____ Open for Nominations
Vacant (*District 5 – Crabb*)
 Term Expires: March 27, 2026

_____ Open for Nominations
Vacant (*District 9 -Anker*)
 Term Expires: March 27, 2026

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms: 3 Year (Mayor Appts); 2 Year (Council Appts) Term Limit: 2
 Meetings: Quarterly – 2nd Thursday (March, June, September & December)
 Women: 4 Senatorial District 15: 7
 Vacancies: 2 Senatorial District 29: 3

B. PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION:

Paul T. Berry, III Open for Nominations
Eligible (*District 5 – Crabb*)

Term Expired: October 31, 2025
**Not interested in serving another term.*

Scott Taft
Not Eligible
Term Expired: October 31, 2025

Open for Nominations
(District 9 – Anker)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	3 Year	Term Limit:	2
Meetings:	Monthly – 3 rd Thursday		
Women:	3	Senatorial District 15:	4
Vacancies:	0	Senatorial District 29:	3

8. COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS – ANY NOMINATIONS WOULD BE LISTED FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

A. ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:

Vacant
(Georgia Veterinary Technician)
Term Expires: October 15, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Vacant
(Animal Rescue Shelter Representative)
Term Expires: October 15, 2026
Recommendations are submitted by a licensed animal shelter.

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Note: The Animal Control Advisory Board is currently developing recommendations for Council’s consideration regarding the board’s composition.

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	2 Year	Term Limit:	2
Meetings:	Semiannually		
Women:	7	Senatorial District 15:	3
Vacancies:	3	Senatorial District 29:	4

B. BOARD OF HEALTH:

Yasmine Cathright
Not Eligible

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Term Expires: December 31, 2025

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	5 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Monthly – 4 th Wednesday	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 0
Vacancies:	1	Senatorial District 29: 5

C. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

_____ *Vacant*

Term Expires: March 24, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	2 Year	Term Limit: n/a
Meetings:	As needed.	
Women:	1	Senatorial District 15: 1
Vacancies:	1	Senatorial District 29: 3

D. LIBERTY THEATRE & CULTURAL ARTS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:

_____ *Vacant*

Term Expired: August 14, 2026

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

_____ *Vacant*

Term Expired: August 14, 2026

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

_____ *Vacant*

Term Expired: August 14, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Civic Center Director Recommendation / Confirmed by Council)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	4 Year	Term Limit: 3
Meetings:	Bimonthly – 2nd Thursday (January, March, May, July, September & November)	
Women:	5	Senatorial District 15: 4
Vacancies:	4	Senatorial District 29: 4

E. NEW HORIZONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH – MENTAL HEALTH, ADDICTIVE DISEASES AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES- COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD:

Judge David Ranieri

Does not desire reappointment

Term Expired: June 30, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	3 Year	Term Limit: n/a
Meetings:	Monthly – 2nd Monday	
Women:	2	Senatorial District 15: 2
Vacancies:	0	Senatorial District 29: 1

F. PERSONNEL REVIEW BOARD:

Vacant

(Alternate Member 1)

Term expires: December 31, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Vacant

(Alternate Member 2)

Term expires: December 31, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Vacant

(Alternate Member 3)

Term expires: December 31, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Delano Leftwich

Not Eligible

(Alternate Member 4)

Term expired: December 31, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	3 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Monthly – 3rd Wednesday	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 2
Vacancies:	4	Senatorial District 29: 4

COUNCIL HEARING(S):

9. Request for refund of property taxes as submitted by Mr. Andrew Ruh, Executive Director of Columbus Botanical Garden, for property located in Columbus, Georgia in the amount of \$28,706.62. (*NOTE: Request for waiver of penalty and interest on property tax in the amount of \$7,935.60 was approved by Council on 03/24/2026. Property taxes for years 2023, 2024, and 2025 were paid in full on 03/25/2026.*)

The City of Columbus strives to provide accessibility to individuals with disabilities and who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting. If assistance is needed regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities, individuals may contact the Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities at 706-653-4492 promptly to allow the City Government to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.