

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

March 24, 2026
5:30 PM
Regular Meeting

MAYOR'S AGENDA

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

INVOCATION: Offered by Offered by Reverend Daniel Potter, Minister to Students – First Baptist Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Skip Henderson

MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes for the March 10, 2026, Council Meeting and Executive Session.

PROCLAMATIONS

2. **Proclamation:** Let's Grow STEAMx

Receiving: Robbie Branscomb, CEO of Let's Grow STEAMx, and STEAMx Community Members

3. **Proclamation:** National Community Development Week

Receiving: Robert Scott, Director of Community Reinvestment

4. **Proclamation:** Jordyn Hunter Appreciation

Receiving: Jordyn Hunter

CITY ATTORNEY’S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

- 1. 2nd Reading-** REZN-11-25-2091: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **2055 Old Guard Road** (parcel # 074-001-008) from Residential Estate – 1 (RE1) Zoning District to Single Family Residential – 4 (SFR4) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Davis)
- 2. 2nd Reading-**REZN-02-26-0208: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **2045 Old Guard Road** (parcel # 079-001-045) from SFR4 (Single Family Residential 4) Zoning District with conditions to SFR4 (Single Family Residential 4) Zoning District with amended conditions. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.)(As amended on 1st Reading)(Councilor Davis)
- 3. 2nd Reading:** An ordinance amending Article I of Chapter 4 of the Columbus Code to insert a new code section which defines nonprofit community handmade and artisan events sponsored by the Department of Parks and Recreation; to clarify applicable permit requirements; to provide for a fee waiver; and for other lawful purposes. (Councilors Cogle and Garrett)
- 4. 1st Reading:** An ordinance amending Section 2-3.02. of the Columbus Code to insert a new paragraph (c) which provides that members of the Columbus Airport Commission may be residents of Muscogee County or any adjacent county; and for other lawful purposes. (Councilors Davis and Crabb)

RESOLUTIONS

- 5.** A Resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia (the “Council”), authorizing the issuance of \$_____ Columbus Georgia, Water and Sewerage Revenue Bonds, Series 2026; to authorize the Mayor and other officials of Columbus to take such further actions as are necessary to provide for the sale, issuance and delivery of such bonds for the purpose of refunding certain Series 2014A bonds and Series 2016 bonds as defined herein; to ratify the execution and delivery of a bond purchase agreement relating to the sale of such bonds; and for other purposes. (Request of the Columbus Board of Water Commissioners)

PUBLIC AGENDA

1. Miss. Emily Downs, Re: Chattahoochee Dam Alarm Notification on Riverwalk
(Rescheduled from 03-10-2026)
2. Ms. Tracy Doughty, Re: Concerns regarding Project Ruby and the introduction of data centers within Muscogee County.

3. Mrs. Jessica Warchal, Re: Quality of Life Concerns
4. Ms. Liz Elliott, Re: The Presence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agents in Columbus.
5. Mrs. Leslie Landi, Re: Questions on Layfield Road Potential Project.
6. Dr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Silencing Certain Constituents.
7. Mr. Ernest Washington, Re: Hyperscale Data Center Proposal
8. Mr. Mick Etchison, Re: Economic Viability of Project Ruby
9. Mr. Paul Olson, Re: Data Center
10. Mr. George McDowell, Re: The State of Our City.
11. Ms. Amy Borton, Re: Reducing the Impact of Data Centers.
12. Mrs. Darlene Laird, Re: The Dangers of Data Centers to Communities. (*Rescheduled from 03-10-2026*)
13. Mr. Eric Kuhlenberg, Re: Data Center.
14. Dr. Natalie Nicole, representing Role Model Academy of Arts, Re: Enhancing Transparency and Public Trust.
15. Mrs. Sandra Turner, Re: Moratorium on Project Ruby.
16. Mr. Ric Rivera, Re: Hyperscale Data Center.
17. Mr. Gregory Foster, Re: Reminding Council that Columbus has Bills to Pay.
18. Ms. Amy Spencer, Re: Opposition to Hyperscale Data Centers in Muscogee County.
19. Rev. Mark Lawrence, representing IMA, Re: Finding Solution for the Future.
20. Mr. Richard Parker, Re: Data Center Opposition.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Three Chances LLC, Parking License Agreement

Approval is requested to authorize the Mayor to execute a parking license agreement with Three Chances LLC, for the purpose of leasing 16 parking spaces located at 18 W 11th St, Columbus, GA 31901.

2. FY27 Sec. 5307 Application for Renovation and Expansion of the METRA Transfer Center

Approval is requested to submit a grant application and, if awarded, accept funding from the Federal Transit Administration's Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 Formula Grant Program for Capital Assistance in an amount up to \$5,254,230, or as otherwise awarded, and amend the Transportation Fund by the amount of the grant award. Funding will be used for the construction, renovation, and expansion of METRA's Transfer Center (located at 814 Linwood Blvd).

3. U.S. Department of Justice FY25 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant

Approval is requested to submit an application and accept, if awarded, an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance (JAG) grant for the Federal Fiscal Year 2025 solicitation in the amount of \$58,653, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match requirement, to be used for eligible law enforcement, prosecution, and courts projects as defined in the grant, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award.

4. PURCHASES

- A. Four (4) Chevrolet Tahoes for Sheriff's Office – Georgia Statewide Contract Cooperative Purchase
- B. Two (2) Ford Broncos for Sheriff's Office – Georgia Statewide Contract Cooperative Purchase
- C. Household Recycling Carts for Public Works – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase
- D. Contract Extension for Elevator Maintenance Services (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 19-0025
- E. Contract Extension for Public Employee Retirement System Pension and Benefit Trust ("The Pension Fund") Investment Consultant Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 20-0007
- F. Annual Adobe Acrobat Pro DC Licensing Subscription Renewal for Information Technology – Federal GSA Cooperative Purchase

5. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. FY26 Budget Update – Judge Marc D'Antonio, Probate Court
- B. Finance Update - Angelica Alexander, Director, Finance

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

1. Travel Authorization Request: Approval is requested for Councilor Toyia Tucker to attend the 2026 NACo Annual Conference for July 16–21, 2026.
2. Minutes of the following boards:
 - Board of Election and Registration 02-02-22, 03-17-22
 - Board of Election and Registration 03-02-23, 05-04-23, 06-20-23
 - Board of Elections and Registration 02-05-26
 - Board of Tax Assessors #08-26, #09-26
 - Board of Zoning Appeals 01-07-26, 02-04-26
 - Convention & Visitors Board 04-16-25
 - Development Authority of Columbus 07-07-22
 - Development Authority of Columbus 01-09-25, 02-06-25,
 - Employee Benefits Committee 12-25-24
 - Employee Benefits Committee 03-19-25, 06-25-25
 - Land Bank Authority 09-18-24
 - Land Bank Authority 07-09-25, 09-10-25
 - Pension Board 04-13-22, 05-11-22, 06-08-22
 - Planning Advisory Commission 01-07-26, 02-18-26
 - The Medical Center Hospital Authority 01-22-2020, 04-22-20, 07-22-20, 10-28-20
 - The Medical Center Hospital Authority 01-27-21, 04-28-21, 07-28-21, 10-27-21
 - The Medical Center Hospital Authority Minutes 07-24-24, 10-23-24
 - The Medical Center Hospital Authority Minutes 01-22-25, 04-23-25, 07-23-25

BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED

3. MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS – ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:

A. HOUSING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

Larry Cardin

Eligible

Term Expires: April 26, 2026

Open for Nominations
(Mayor’s Appointment)

William J. Burgin

Eligible

Term Expires: April 26, 2026

**Interested in serving another term.*

Open for Nominations
(Mayor’s Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	5 Year	Term Limit: n/a
Meetings:	Monthly – 3 rd Wednesday	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 3
Vacancies:	0	Senatorial District 29: 4

B. 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

4. NOMINATIONS – CONFIRMED BY COUNCIL:

A. AIRPORT COMMISSION:

Vacant

Waiting on Nominee
(Confirmed by Council)

Term Expires: December 31, 2026

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms: 5 Year Term Limit: n/a
Meetings: Monthly – 4th 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)

Membership and Meeting Information

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

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

A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

_____ *Vacant*

Term Expires: March 27, 2026

Open for Nominations
(District 1 – Hickey)

Tracy Belt

Not Eligible

Term Expires: March 27, 2026

Open for Nominations
(District 4 -Tucker)

_____ *Vacant*

Term Expires: March 27, 2026

Open for Nominations
(District 5 – Crabb)

Vacant

Term Expires: March 27, 2026

Open for Nominations
(District 9 -Anker)

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

Eligible

Term Expired: October 31, 2025

**Not interested in serving another term.*

Open for Nominations
(District 5 – Crabb)

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 – 3rd Thursday

Women: 3 Senatorial District 15: 4

Vacancies: 0 Senatorial District 29: 3

6. 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

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Recommendations are submitted by a licensed animal shelter.

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

Term Expires: December 31, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

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. DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS

Laura Q. Grower

Eligible

Term Expires: April 30, 2026

****Interested in serving another term.***

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Doug Jenkins

Eligible

Term Expires: April 30, 2026

**Interested in serving another term.*

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

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

E. 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 – 2 nd Thursday (January, March, May, July, September & November)	
Women:	5	Senatorial District 15: 4
Vacancies:	4	Senatorial District 29: 4

F. 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 – 2 nd Monday	

Women:	2	Senatorial District 15:	2
Vacancies:	0	Senatorial District 29:	1

G. 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 HEARINGS:

- Request for Waiver of Penalty and Interest on property tax as submitted by Mr. Andrew Ruh, Executive Director of Columbus Botanical Garden, for property located in Columbus, Georgia.

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.