

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

July 22, 2025
5:30 PM
Regular Meeting

MAYOR'S A G E N D A

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 July 8, 2025, Council Meeting.

PROCLAMATIONS

2. **Proclamation:** Community Healthcare Week
Receiving: Asante Hilts
3. **Proclamation:** Wynnton Neighborhood Network
Receiving: Jason Wade
4. **Proclamation:** West Georgia Dixie Baseball
Receiving: West Georgia Dixie Baseball Team

5. **Proclamation:** Columbus High School Boys Golf Team
Receiving: Coach Chris Parker and the Columbus High School Boys Golf Team

RESOLUTIONS

6. A Resolution requesting a transition audit by the Internal Auditor of the Clerk of Council's Office. (*Requested by the Clerk of Council*)

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

1. **2nd Reading:** An Ordinance amending Chapter 14 pertaining to Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions of the Columbus Code to insert a code section 14-24 to provide for fees for lift assistance service calls made by the Columbus Department of Fire and Medical Emergency Services to licensed healthcare and affiliated facilities; to provide penalties for violations thereof; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem)
2. **2nd Reading:** An Ordinance amending the Columbus Code to add a new Article V to Chapter 11 to require safety standards pertaining to powered bicycles, powered mobility devices and storage batteries; and for other purposes. (Councilor Cogle)
3. **1st Reading:** An Ordinance amending the Columbus Code to repeal and replace Section 14-13. with a new code section that prohibits camping on public property within Columbus, Georgia, and for other purposes. (Councilor Crabb)

RESOLUTIONS

4. A Resolution amending Resolution No. 020-23 to consent to the extension by the Columbus Water Works of a \$11,230,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority up to and until February 1, 2027. (Request of Columbus Water Works)
5. A Resolution amending Resolution No. 076-21 to consent to the extension by the Columbus Water Works of a \$13,300,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority up to and until February 1, 2027. (Request of Columbus Water Works)
6. A Resolution amending Resolution No. 078-21 to consent to the extension by the Columbus Water Works of a \$22,439,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority up to and until November 1, 2026. (Request of Columbus Water Works)

PUBLIC AGENDA

Last Application Received: July 18, 2025, 10:22 a.m.

1. Mr. John Michael Watford, representing Mike Watford, Re: Mud Buildup on Roaring Branch Creek Road.
2. Mr. Ladarius Colbert & Dr. Jaketra Bryant, representing New Blaq Order LLC and Dr. Jaketra Bryant Coaching and Speaking, LLC, Re: Conditions of South Columbus.
3. Mr. Atlantic Cole, representing: Cole's Towing & Recovery, Inc., Re: Request for Reconsideration of Resolution No. 182-25.
4. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing: Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: National Night Out, Paws Humane, and Underfunded Pension Plans.
5. Ms. Audrey Holston Palmore, Re: Property Located at 2928 10th Street.
6. Mr. Mark Lawrence, Re: Next Steps
7. Dr. Johnny Flakes, III, Re: Who do you want people to believe you are?

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. FY26 Public Defender Contract

Approval is requested to enter into an agreement between the Circuit Public Defender Office of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit and Muscogee County for Indigent Defense Services in the amount of \$2,761,935 and to authorize monthly payments to the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council (GPDSC) for said services in the amount of \$167,963.72 per month. The monthly amount is included in the total contract amount of \$2,761,935 and covers the cost of personnel services at \$191,586, as well as a 5% administrative fee of \$95,979.

2. Amendment to Extend the Subrecipient Agreements for Occupational Training and Retention

Approval is requested to amend the subrecipient agreements for Occupational Training (Internships, Work Experience, On-the-Job Training, and/or post-secondary training; and retention services) for economically disadvantaged (low-income) individuals residing in Muscogee County (for a total amount of \$995,503 or otherwise awarded Council approved the subrecipient agreements for Occupational Training on August 27, 2024. Request is made for the subaward periods of performance, budget periods, and expenditure reporting periods end date listed in Article II General Award Information; Sec. 15.1 Article XV Term; and Exhibit D Expenditure Reporting Schedule to be extended to September 30, 2026.

3. **PURCHASES**

- [A.](#) Election Equipment, Supplies and Services
- [B.](#) Household Trash Carts and Lids for Public Works – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase
- [C.](#) Household Recycling Carts for Public Works – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase

4. **UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS**

- [A.](#) FY25 Bull Creek Golf Course Budget Update – Jim Arendt, Director of Golf, Golf Authority
- [B.](#) Pension Fund Process Update - Angelica Alexander, Director, Finance
- [C.](#) Revenue Department Update - Angelica Alexander, Director, Finance
- [D.](#) Business License Tax, Revenue Collection Services RFP Update – Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager, Finance, Planning & Development
- [E.](#) ARP Update Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager, Finance, Planning & Development

BID ADVERTISEMENT

DATE: July 22, 2025
TO: Mayor and Councilors
FROM: Finance Department
SUBJECT: Advertised Bids/RFPs/RFQs

August 15, 2025

1. **Design and Construction Services for Columbus Pickleball Facility – RFP No. 26-0006**

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) is requesting proposals from qualified contractors to engage a Design-Builder to design and construct the new Columbus Pickleball Facility. The facility will be located at 1641 3rd Avenue and be comprised of twenty-seven (27) pickleball courts, including sixteen (16) covered courts. The facility will also include bathroom and concession facilities. Approximately one-hundred four (104) parking spaces will be constructed to support the facility within the existing rights of way of 3rd Avenue and 17th Street. The estimated budget for this project is \$7,000,000.

The selected Design-Builder will be responsible for all aspects of the design and construction.

CLERK OF COUNCIL’S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES - INFORMATION ONLY

- 1.** Memo: Board Quorum Challenges
- 2.** Memo: Columbus Golf Course Authority Minutes

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

- 3.** Request to declare the seat of Julio Portillo (*District 8*) as vacant on the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC).
- 4.** Resignation of Adrian Wade (*District 6*) from his seat on the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC).
- 5.** **Minutes of the following boards:**

Board of Tax Assessors, #23-25

Columbus Golf Course Authority, 01.14.2025

Columbus Golf Course Authority, 02.11.2025

Columbus Golf Course Authority, 04.22.2025

Columbus Golf Course Authority, 05.28.2025

BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED

- 6. MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS – ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:**

A. COLUMBUS SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY:

New Member
(Certified Public Accountant)

Open for Nominations
(Mayor’s Appointment)

The terms are three years, with the terms beginning July 1, 2025, and the term expiration of the first appointments being staggered pursuant to Ordinance 25-011.

Women: 1
Senatorial District 15: 1
Senatorial District 29: 3
Vacancies: 11

B. PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES' BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Vacant

(Business Community)

Term Expires: June 30, 2026

Open for Nominations
(Mayor's Appointment)

The terms are four years. Meets monthly.

Women: 4

Senatorial District 15: 9

Senatorial District 29: 2

Vacancies: 1

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

A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Vacant

Term Expires: March 27, 2026

(District 1 – Hickey)

The terms for the Mayor's Appointments are three years and Council's Appointments are two years. Meets quarterly.

Women: 4

Senatorial District 15: 9

Senatorial District 29: 2

Vacancies: 2

B. YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL:

District 5 Nominee: _____

District 9 Nominee: _____

District 10 Nominee: _____

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

A. **KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:**

Vacant

(Senatorial District 15)

Term Expires: June 30, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

The terms are three years. Meets every other month.

Women: 4

Senatorial District 15: 5

Senatorial District 29: 3

Vacancies: 2

B. **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)

The terms are three years. Meets every other month.

Women: 2

Senatorial District 15: 3

Senatorial District 29: 1

Vacancies: 0

C. **PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION:**

Ralph King

Not Eligible to succeed

Term Expired: March 31, 2025

****Councilor Chambers is nominating Anthony Smith***

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Larry Derby

Not Eligible to succeed

Term Expired: March 31, 2025

****Councilor Cogle is nominating Haley Lyman***

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

These terms are three years. Meets twice a month.

Women:	2
Senatorial District 15:	6
Senatorial District 29:	3
Vacancies:	0

D. RETIREES' HEALTH BENEFITS COMMITTEE:

Thomas Barron

Not Eligible

Term Expired: June 30, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

The term of the Mayor's appointee is two years. The terms of Council's appointees are four years. Meets once a month.

Women: 4

Senatorial District 15: n/a

Senatorial District 29: n/a

Vacancies: 0

ADD-ON: BOARD APPOINTMENTS – ACTION REQUESTED

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

A. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

Vacant

Appointment)

Term Expired: March 24, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Mayor's

Terms are two years. Meet as needed.

Women:	1
Senatorial District 15:	0
Senatorial District 29:	3
Vacancies:	2

10. COUNCIL’S CONFIRMATION - RECOMMENDATION FROM ORGANIZATIONS / AGENCIES:

A. UPTOWN FACADE BOARD:

James Lewis

(Uptown Business Improvement Dist. Rep)

Not Eligible to succeed

Term Expires: October 31, 2024

**Fredrick Hill is being recommended by the Uptown Business Improvement District.*

Open for Nominations

(Council’s Appointment)

Hannah Israel

(Uptown Business Improvement Dist. Rep)

Not Eligible to succeed

Term Expires: October 31, 2024

**Ginger Surprise is being recommended by the Uptown Business Improvement District.*

Open for Nominations

(Council’s Appointment)

The terms are three years. Board meets monthly.

Women:	5
Senatorial District 15:	4
Senatorial District 29:	3
Vacancies:	2

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

A. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

Vacant

Appointment)

Term Expires: March 24, 2027

**Seat previously held by Johnny W. Byrd, II, who recently passed.*

Terms are two years. Meet as needed.

Open for Nominations

(Council’s

Women:	1
Senatorial District 15:	0
Senatorial District 29:	3
Vacancies:	2

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.

File Attachments for Item:

1. Approval of minutes for the July 8, 2025, Council Meeting.

COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING **MINUTES**

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

July 8, 2025
9:00 AM
Regular Meeting

M A Y O R ' S A G E N D A

PRESENT: Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen (arrived at 9:06 a.m.) and Councilors John Anker, Travis L. Chambers, Joanne Cogle, Charmaine Crabb (arrived at 9:10 a.m.), Glenn Davis, Byron Hickey, Bruce Huff (arrived at 10:08 a.m.), and Toyia Tucker. Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall, Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore and Deputy Clerk of Council Tameka Colbert.

ABSENT: Councilor R. Walker Garrett was absent.

The following documents have been included as a part of the electronic Agenda Packet: (1) CM#5(A) – Presentation: Columbus SS4A Plan Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting #1; (2) CM#5(B) – Presentation: South Lumpkin Road Streetscape Project No. 0019528; (3) CM#5(C) – Presentation: Cooper Creek Flood Map Revision

The following documents were distributed around the Council table: (1) Finance Documents (*Redacted – Payment approved per Resolution No. 193-25 on 06-17-2025*); (2) PA#1 – Event Flyer: Lifting Up East Wynnton; (3) PA#1 – Event Program: Lifting Up East Wynnton (*Provided to select individuals at the request of applicant*); (4) PA#4 – Statement; (5) PA#5 – Statement (*Submitted to Clerk of Council after appearance*); (6) PA#7 – Images of Property Damage

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

INVOCATION: Offered by Youth Pastor Mitchell Harris, Pleasant Grove Baptist Church of Columbus, Georgia

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Skip Henderson

MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes for the June 17, 2025 Council Meeting and Executive Session. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Crabb and Huff being absent for the vote, and Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Introduction of Missy Kendrick, President & CEO of Choose Columbus
 - Selvin Hollingsworth, Chairman of the Development Authority of Columbus

After a brief introduction, newly appointed **President & CEO of Choose Columbus, Missy Kendrick**, came forward and expressed her appreciation for the Council's input on how to move economic development forward in Columbus and Muscogee County. She noted that the community has adopted a new structure for economic development, which was previously housed under the Chamber of Commerce. This new, more focused approach aims to engage young professionals, support established businesses in utilizing available resources, and attract new businesses to Columbus.

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance (25-037) - 2nd Reading:** An Ordinance providing for the levy, assessment, and collection of taxes for the public school system of Columbus, Georgia; and for other purposes. (Budget Review Committee) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Huff being absent for the vote, and Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.
2. **1st Reading-** An Ordinance amending Chapter 14 pertaining to Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions of the Columbus Code to insert a code section 14-24 to provide for fees for lift assistance service calls made by the Columbus Department of Fire and Medical Emergency Services to licensed healthcare and affiliated facilities; to provide penalties for violations thereof; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem)

Fire/EMS Chief Sal Scarpa approached the rostrum to explain the proposed amendment, stating this amendment is to encourage healthcare facilities to staff appropriately to provide necessary care for their residents.

Public Comment:

- Mr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., came forward asking questions on the fees received, to which Chief Scarpa responded.

3. **1st Reading-** An Ordinance amending the Columbus Code to add a new Article V to Chapter 11 to require safety standards pertaining to powered bicycles, powered mobility devices and storage batteries; and for other purposes. (Councilor Cogle)

Fire/EMS Chief Sal Scarpa explained the proposed amendment intended to address a fire hazard that has been recognized regarding powered bicycles, powered mobility devices and the storage of batteries.

Councilor Tovia Tucker recognized the Columbus Fire/EMS Department for winning the 2025 National Association of Counties Achievement Award for the Columbus Correct Care.

RESOLUTIONS

4. **Resolution (205-25)** – A Resolution updating the Travel Policy for members of the Columbus, Georgia Council. (Councilor Tucker) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to amend the resolution to add language requiring members of Council to submit a travel request identifying training subject matter that will later be shared upon return and the \$3,500 limit per councilor is non-transferable, seconded by Councilor Crabb and continued with discussion. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a substitute motion to amend the resolution to add language requiring members of Council to submit a travel request identifying training subject matter that will later be shared upon return and the \$3,500 limit per councilor is non-transferable unless approved by Council, seconded by Councilor Davis and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Huff being absent for the vote, and Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

A lengthy discussion was held during which **Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen** shared his concerns regarding the proposed change to the Council Travel Policy. He stated that he would like the Council to consider adding language to the resolution specifying that the funds are non-transferable between councilors, that the topics or courses registered are included with the travel request submitted to Council, and that information learned from the training or class is later presented to the Council. He further shared that, based on his research of councilors' travel over the past few years, there has been no instance of a trip exceeding the allocated \$3,500, and therefore he does not believe there is a need to allow funds to be transferred between councilors.

Several councilors shared their perspectives on the proposed travel policies, during which **Councilor Travis L. Chambers** requested clarification on whether the \$3,500 allocation per councilor would also apply to mandated training, to which the City Attorney responded in the negative.

After the City Attorney clarified that the language requiring councilors to obtain Council approval for travel had been omitted, **Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore** requested that the Council consider adding this language into the resolution to ensure that this responsibility does not fall on the Clerk. As the discussion continued, it was stated the Clerk would include a balance of the line items for travel to be included with each travel request.

DISCUSSION: Resolution No. 193-25 (Approved June 17, 2025)

Councilor Glenn Davis requested a status update on the invoice for the payment approved on June 17, 2025, pursuant to Resolution No. 193-25. He expressed his disapproval of what he described as excessive attorney fees and made a motion for the Council to reconsider the action taken on June 17, 2025; however, the motion failed for lack of a second, and his comments continued. He clarified that the issue was not whether the invoice should be paid — acknowledging the obligation to do so — but rather that the fees themselves were excessive. No remedies were discussed during the meeting. He further noted that a judge has the authority to determine whether attorney fees are excessive and stated that there was no reason for a grievance should not have been filed with the Court of Appeals.

After **Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge** reported that the payment was issued on June 27, 2025, Councilor Davis made a motion to reconsider the action and to file a grievance through the Court of Appeals process; however, the motion failed for lack of a second.

City Attorney Clifton Fay stated that this matter is governed by the case law established by the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals. He explained that if an official, acting in their official capacity, is required to hire outside counsel to assert a legal position that the local government attorney cannot take due to a conflict — as is the case here — and if the official is successful in asserting their position, then the payment of attorney fees is the responsibility of the local government. This has been affirmed by the Court of Appeals since 2014 and by the Supreme Court since 2001. He recommended Council not

Councilor Davis made a motion for a resolution to be created asserting Council's intent to file a grievance with the State Bar of Georgia based on what they believe to be excessive attorneys fees, seconded by Councilor Hickey and continued with discussion.

During the discussion, **City Attorney Clifton Fay** stated that his office would not draft the requested resolution and that he does not recommend the Council adopt any resolution claiming the fees are excessive when the courts have mandated payment. He advised Councilor Davis that if he wishes to pursue a grievance, he should do so as an individual, but he does not recommend filing such a grievance at the taxpayers' expense. City Attorney Fay stated for the record that Councilor Davis is welcome to seek a second opinion; however, neither he nor his office would file a grievance against another attorney whose fees have been authorized by appellate court decisions.

After a discussion was held on the need for the Council to identify the cost associated with filing the grievance as requested by Councilor Davis, Councilor Hickey withdrew his second to the motion on the table. Clerk of Council McLemore restated the action taken, to which Councilor Davis withdrew his last motion for a resolution to be created asserting Council's intent to file a grievance with the State Bar of Georgia based on what they believe to be excessive attorney's fees

PUBLIC AGENDA

Last Application Received: July 3, 2025, 1:39 p.m. (Online)

2. Mr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Attorney Fees Paid for by Taxpayers.
1. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, Re: Political Shenanigans, Staff Appreciation, and Uplifting the East Wynnton Campaign.
3. Miss. Ashlee Williams, Re: Unanswered Questions, Unethical Use of Power and Mismanagement of Money.
4. Mrs. Kathryn Bailey (Tanner), Re: Corruption.

Crime Prevention Director Seth Brown approached the rostrum to respond, summarizing the functions of his office and the grant application process.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CRIME PREVENTION DIRECTOR:

- Bring information on the original intent of the Crime Prevention Grants to a work session to explain and discuss possible changes based on the needs identified. Bring metric reports. *(Councilor Tucker)*
- Provide information where the grant funds are being spent on the metric reports. *(Councilor Hickey)*
- Provide quarterly reports/updates for transparency. *(Councilor Chambers)*

5. Mr. Tim Mason, Re: PAWS Humane Animal Control Services.
6. Mr. Randy Foster, Re: PAWS Humane Animal Control Services.
7. Mr. Gregory Foster, representing the Chatham Woods Neighborhood Association, Re: Department of Inspections and Code.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY:

- See what can be done to amend the Code of Ordinances to allow Inspections & Code more leeway to address the upkeep of private properties to keep neglect from affecting surrounding properties.
(Councilor Hickey)

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Service Agreement with Public Consulting Group, LLC

Resolution (206-25): A resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to enter into a service agreement with Public Consulting Group, LLC to pursue Medicaid supplemental payments for Fire-EMS Services, allowing a 10% contingency-based fee structure tied to recovered funds. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Chambers and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

2. GA Medicaid Fee for Service – Ground Ambulance Upper Payment Limit – Supplemental Payment Program

Resolution (207-25): A resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to participate in the Georgia Medicaid Fee-For-Service Upper Payment Limit Supplemental Payment Program and authorizing payment via intergovernmental transfer to the State of Georgia, as required, based on formulaic calculations derived by the Department of Community Health. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

3. Flint Energies Foundation Grant

Resolution (208-25): A resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant for the purchase of a Spot robot with public safety payloads for \$410,465.35, or as otherwise awarded, from the Flint Energies Foundation Grant Program with no matching funds required. The Multi-Governmental Fund will be amended by the amount of the award. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

4. PURCHASES

A. Fuel Purchases for Fiscal Year 2026

Resolution (209-25): A resolution authorizing payment for Fiscal Year 2026 fuel purchases awarded to the vendor submitting the lowest, responsive, responsible quote via the daily fuel quote process. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

B. Federal and State Mandated Fees for Fiscal Year 2026

Resolution (210-25): A resolution authorizing the payment for various federal and state mandated fees during the Fiscal Year 2026. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

C. Vehicle Buildout Services for the Sheriff's Office

Resolution (211-25): A resolution authorizing payment to 911iNet (Phenix City, Alabama) in the total amount of \$200,521.00 for vehicle buildout services for the Sheriff's Office. The amount includes \$169,990.00 for Park Patrol buildout services and \$30,531.00 for pursuit vehicle buildout services. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

D. Contract Amendment for NeoGov Application Management Tracking System for Human Resources

Resolution (212-25): A resolution authorizing the contract amendment with NEOGOV (El Segundo, CA), to add the PowerDMS Attract and SparkHire subscription modules in the total amount of \$74,694.00; which includes a discounted rate for Year 1 in the amount of \$22,609.50; and a discounted rate of \$52,084.50 for Year 2. Approval is also requested to the annual maintenance/support renewals, including cost increases for all aspects of the system, which will be budgeted in the appropriate subsequent fiscal years. Future renewals will be coterminous with other software modules from NEOGOV licensed from July-June. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

E. Amendment 21 for Construction Manager as General Contractor Services for Columbus Government Center Complex - RFQ No. 20-0002

Resolution (213-25): A resolution authorizing the execution of Amendment 21 in the amount of \$783,530.00 with Gilbane Building Company (Atlanta, GA), in association with Freeman & Associations, Inc., for construction manager as general contractor services for the Government Center Complex. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

EMERGENCY PURCHASES

1. Information Only: Exigent “Off the Lot” Vehicle Purchases – Resolution No. 354-24

5. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Safe Streets 4 All – Alex Henry, Benesch

Mr. Alex Henry, AICP – Project Manager, Benesch, approached the rostrum to deliver a presentation on the *Safe Streets 4 All Plan Project*, which focuses on developing action plans to improve street safety for the community. He shared the results of a community survey, which identified the following priorities for improving traffic safety in Columbus: (1) Construct additional pedestrian and bicycle facilities, (2) Reduce impaired, distracted, and inattentive driving, (3) Reduce speeding and aggressive driving, and (4) Improve roadway and intersection lighting.

REFERRAL(S):**FOR THE DEPUTY CITY MANAGER:**

- Data on the ratio of officers to citizens. (*Councilor Anker*)
- Request to meet with Mr. Alex Henry. (*Councilor Huff*)
- A misspelling of the word *arrive* was noted on a sign installed as part of the Buena Vista Road Project, on the section of the roadway closest to Macon Road. (*Councilor Tucker*)
- Place signs between Macon Road and Buena Vista Road to advise drivers to reduce speed when approaching the Buena Vista Road exit. (*Councilor Tucker*)
- A consolidated, filterable list of road projects by district, start date, etc. that is accessible to the members of Council. (*Councilor Cogle*)
- Provide details on whether the roadway improvements listed in the document sent to Council members are covered by the approved budget; if not, include the projected cost to complete those improvements. (*Councilor Tucker*)

B. South Lumpkin Road Improvements – Kathy Stallard, Heath & Lineback

Mr. James Patrick, PE – Active Transportation Division Manager, Heath & Lineback Engineers, Inc., approached the rostrum to present the *South Lumpkin Road Streetscape Project*. He summarized the project, which begins north of the roundabout at South Lumpkin Road and Infantry Road and extends to the intersection with Victory Drive (SR 1). The project aims to calm traffic, enhance pedestrian and bicycle accessibility, and improve overall safety.

Ms. Kathy Stallard – Senior Project Manager, Heath & Lineback Engineers, Inc., came forward during the presentation to address questions from Council members about the rationale and approach behind the project plans. She noted that feedback from citizens at the public meeting indicated a preference for the three-lane design, as there were concerns the project might negatively impact local businesses.

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge requested guidance from the Council on which approach the consultants should proceed with.

Councilor Cogle made a motion to move forward with the Preferred Alternative Option (3-Lane Approach) as presented, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilors Crabb, Hickey and Tucker being absent for the vote, and Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

- C. Cooper Creek Study - Jeff Keefe, Moon Meeks and Associates, Inc and Binita Shrestha, Waggoner Engineering

Mr. Jeff Keefe, PLS – President, Moon Meeks & Associates, Inc., approached the rostrum to present the *Cooper Creek Flood Map Revision*. He noted that the last map update and data collection was conducted in 1979. He outlined the engineering methodology used for the new study and explained that the updated map will reflect a comparison of floodplain boundaries, identify affected properties, and detail changes to base flood elevations.

Director Vance Beck – Engineering Department came forward and stated that, according to the old map, 83 properties were located within the flood zone. With the updated map, that number will decrease to 19 properties, which will now be required to obtain flood insurance.

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge provided additional context, explaining that properties located within the floodplain will not be eligible to obtain a building permit.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE DEPUTY CITY MANAGER:

- Contact all property owners that will be affected. (*Councilor Crabb*)
- Include in the emails sent to the owners of the three properties discussed. (*Councilor Anker*)

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge announced the kickoff meeting for the performance and risk assessment will be later that afternoon.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE DEPUTY CITY MANAGER:

- Share an update on the changes carried out in the Revenue Division following the audit recommendations. (*Councilor Hickey*)
- Some features at the Carver Park Splash Pad are not working. (*Councilor Tucker*)

- Change the hours of the Carver Park Splash Pad to 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Sundays and Mondays from now until Labor Day. *(Councilor Tucker)*
- Ensure timely and effective communication to the public regarding changes to the trash pickup schedule due to holidays. *(Councilor Tucker)*

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

1. Minutes of the following boards:

Board of Tax Assessors, #19-25

Board of Tax Assessors, #20-25

Board of Tax Assessors, #21-25

Board of Tax Assessors, #22-25

Board of Water Commissioners, 05.12.25

Columbus Airport Commission, 04.23.25

Columbus Airport Commission, 05.28.25

Columbus Golf Authority, 02.11.25

Columbus Golf Authority, 03.25.25

Columbus Golf Authority, 05.28.25

Columbus Iron Works Convention & Trade Center Authority, 05.22.25

Convention & Visitors Board of Commissioners, 05.21.25

New Horizons Community Service Board, 05.12.25

Pension Fund, Employees Board of Trustees, 01.08.25

Pension Fund, Employees Board of Trustees, 02.12.25

Pension Fund, Employees Board of Trustees, 03.12.25

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

ADD-ON RESOLUTION:

RESOLUTION (214-25): A resolution excusing the absence of Councilor R. Walker Garrett from the July 8, 2025, Council Meeting. *(Add-On)* Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED

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

A. COLUMBUS SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY:

A nominee for a new seat as a Certified Public Accountant, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. *(Mayor's Appointment)*. There were none.

A nominee for a new seat as a Law Enforcement Representative, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. *(Mayor's Appointment)*. Mayor Henderson nominated Sgt. Kelly Phillips with the Columbus Police Department. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

B. PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES' BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

A nominee for a vacant seat with a term expiring on June 30, 2025, as a representative of the Business Community on the Pension Fund, Employees' Board of Trustees *(Mayor's Appointment)*. There were none.

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

A. CIVIC CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Johnson Trawick (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term that expired on March 1, 2025, as the District 8 Representative on the Civic Center Advisory Board (*District 8 – Garrett*). There were none.

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

A nominee for the vacant seat of the District 1 Representative for a term expiring on March 27, 2026, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 1 – Hickey*). There were none.

C. YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL:

A nominee for the District 2 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*District 2 – Davis*). Councilor Davis nominated Eli Smith, Calvary Christian School. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

A nominee for the District 3 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*District 3 – Huff*). Councilor Huff nominated Zion Javon Daise. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

A nominee for the District 5 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*District 5 – Crabb*). There were none.

A nominee for the District 9 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*District 9 – Anker*). There were none.

A nominee for the District 10 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*District 10 – Chambers*). There were none.

4. DESIGNATED SEATS – NOMINATIONS ARE CONFIRMED BY COUNCIL:

A. BOARD OF ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION:

A nominee for the seat of U.D. Roberts (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term expiring on December 31, 2025, as the Republican Party Representative on the Board of Elections & Registration (*Muscogee County Republican Party's Nomination / Confirmed by Council*). Clerk of Council McLemore announced U.D. Roberts is being renominated to continuing serving as the Republican Party Representative. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

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

A. DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

A nominee for a vacant seat with an expired term as of August 15, 2023, on the Downtown Development Authority (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

B. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:

A nominee for a vacant seat with the term expiring on June 30, 2027, as a Senatorial District 15 Representative on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

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

A nominee for the seat of Judge David Ranieri (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term that expired on June 30, 2025, on the New Horizons Behavioral Health – Mental Health, Addictive Diseases and Developmental Disabilities – Community Service Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

D. RETIREES' HEALTH BENEFITS COMMITTEE:

A nominee for the seat of Thomas Barron (*Not Eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expired on June 30, 2025, on the Retirees' Health Benefits Committee (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

TRANSITION AUDIT REQUEST:

Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore stated she wishes to request a transition audit for the Clerk of Council's Office.

REFERRAL(S):**FOR THE INTERNAL AUDITOR:**

- Create a resolution for each request for an audit to be conducted by the Internal Auditor. (*Councilor Tucker*)

PUBLIC AGENDA (continued)

2. Mr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Attorney Fees Paid for by Taxpayers.
1. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, Re: Political Shenanigans, Staff Appreciation, and Uplifting the East Wynnton Campaign.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Tucker to adjourn the July 8, 2025, Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting, and the time being 1:30 p.m.

Lindsey G. McLemore
Clerk of Council
Council of Columbus, Georgia

File Attachments for Item:

6. A Resolution requesting a transition audit by the Internal Auditor of the Clerk of Council's Office. *(Requested by the Clerk of Council)*

RESOLUTION**NO.**_____

WHEREAS, the Clerk of Council has requested a transition audit by the Internal Auditor of the Clerk of Council's Office.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

We hereby confirm and approve the conduct of the audit listed above by the Internal Auditor. Reports shall be submitted upon completion as required by ordinance.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the 22nd day of July 2025 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Anker	voting _____
Councilor Chambers	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Hickey	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

Lindsey G. McLemore
Clerk of Council

B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III
Mayor

File Attachments for Item:

1. 2nd Reading: An Ordinance amending Chapter 14 pertaining to Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions of the Columbus Code to insert a code section 14-24 to provide for fees for lift assistance service calls made by the Columbus Department of Fire and Medical Emergency Services to licensed healthcare and affiliated facilities; to provide penalties for violations thereof; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem)

ORDINANCE
NO. _____

An Ordinance amending Chapter 14 pertaining to Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions of the Columbus Code to insert a code section 14-24 to provide for fees for lift assistance service calls made by the Columbus Department of Fire and Medical Emergency Services to licensed healthcare and affiliated facilities; to provide penalties for violations thereof; and for other purposes.

SECTION 1.

Chapter 14 of the Columbus Code is hereby amended by inserting a new section 14-24 which was previously reserved to read as follows:

“(a) Purpose and intent.

The Columbus Department of Fire and Medical Emergency Services (“the department”) increasingly burdened by calls from healthcare and affiliated facilities or private transport services requesting assistance to lift individuals from seated or lying positions. These 'lift assists' do not involve medical emergencies or require transport to an emergency department. Despite being non-emergency in nature, they still require Fire EMS personnel, vehicles, and equipment—incurring operational costs, limiting emergency response availability, and increasing the risk of injury to department staff. The purpose of this section is to impose a fee for such lift assistance calls and provide for the enforcement thereof.

(b) Definitions

- (1) *Assisted living facility (ALF)* means any for-profit or non-profit facility which offers residence, services, meals, and skilled care to the elderly, and may include one or more of the following types of services: (1) independent living; (2) assisted living; and (3) skilled nursing care.
- (2) *Clinic, medical or dental* means a facility for diagnosis, care and treatment of outpatients.
- (3) *Convalescent or nursing facility* means an establishment providing services to the elderly, illness, or infirm, including lodging, meals and custodial care or nursing care.
- (4) *Personal care home* means any dwelling, whether operated for profit or not, which undertakes through its ownership or management to provide for or arrange for the provision of housing, food service, and one or more personal care services for two or more adults who are not related to the administrator by blood or marriage, as defined and licensed in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 31-7-12 as such Code Section may from time to time be amended.
- (5) *Private Ambulance Service* means a licensed for-profit or non-profit EMS provider that

offers non-emergency medical transportation for patients and facilitates scheduled transport to or from a patient residence, assisted living facility, clinic, personal care home or hospital for non-emergency medical care or return to a patient's place of residence.

(c) Process

- (1) When dispatched, Columbus Fire and EMS crews will respond and assess the situation. If the crew determines there is no injury or acute medical condition —and only a lift assist is required — a fee will be charged to the facility (not the patient) for the service. This applies to assisted living facilities, convalescent homes, clinics, and personal care homes all as defined above.
- (2) If a private ambulance service requests lift assistance from Columbus Fire and EMS for a patient not being transported to a hospital emergency department, the fee will be charged to the ambulance service (not the patient).

(d) Fees

- (1) The fee for lift assistance will be \$350.00 per encounter, provided however, the first call by from a facility where only lift assistance is required will only result in a written warning notice.
- (2) Fees will be assessed to the designated administrator of the defined facility or the entity (as in the case of a private ambulance service).
- (3) All fees must be paid within 30 days of the invoice date. If the responsible party fails to remit payment, the City reserves the right to pursue collection through any lawful means.

(e) Repeated violations

Failure to pay the invoices for three separate invoiced lift assistance calls shall constitute a violation of an ordinance of the consolidated government and shall result in the issuance of a citation of the entity or facility responsible for the invoice (not the patient) to appear in Records Court and be subject to penalties as authorized by Section 1-8 of the Columbus Code.

(f) Confidentiality

To protect patient confidentiality, all personal identifiable information collected through the Fire EMS reporting system will be kept strictly confidential by all City employees and representatives. This information is protected under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and will not be disclosed to the public unless required by law, including but not limited to the Georgia Open Records Act.”

SECTION 2.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3.

This Ordinance shall become effective August 1, 2025.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held on the 8th day of July, 2025; introduced a second time at a regular meeting held on the ____ day of ____, 2025 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Anker	voting _____
Councilor Chambers	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Hickey	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Mayor

File Attachments for Item:

2. 2nd Reading: An Ordinance amending the Columbus Code to add a new Article V to Chapter 11 to require safety standards pertaining to powered bicycles, powered mobility devices and storage batteries; and for other purposes. (Councilor Cogle)

ORDINANCE

NO. _____

An Ordinance amending the Columbus Code to add a new Article V to Chapter 11 to require safety standards pertaining to powered bicycles, powered mobility devices and storage batteries; and for other purposes.

SECTION 1.

Chapter 11 of the Columbus Code is hereby amended by replacing the current Article V which is marked as reserved with a new Article V which shall read as follows:

“Article V- Powered Bicycles, Powered Mobility Devices, and Storage Batteries

Section 11-41.- Definitions.

Powered bicycle means a bicycle with electric assist.

Powered mobility device means an electric scooter or other personal mobility device powered by a lithium-ion or other storage battery. The term does not include powered bicycles, wheelchairs or other mobility devices designed for use by persons with disabilities, or any vehicle that is registered with the State of Georgia Department of Motor Vehicles.

Stock keeping unit means each group of items offered for sale of the same brand name, quantity of contents, retail price and variety.

Section 11-42.-Applicability.

- (a) This ordinance shall apply to all individuals or entities associated with the sale, lease, and/or rental of powered bicycles, powered mobility devices, and storage batteries as part of a commercial business.
- (b) Any individual or entity associated with the sale, lease, and/or rental of powered bicycles, powered mobility devices, and storage batteries already in business prior to the effective date of this ordinance shall have a twelve-month grace period to come into compliance with this ordinance.

Section 11-43. – Safety Standards

- (a) No person shall distribute, sell, lease, rent or offer for sale, lease or rental a powered bicycle unless:
 - 1. The electrical system for such bicycle has been certified by an accredited testing laboratory for compliance with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standard 2849, or such other safety standard as the jurisdiction has established by rule in consultation with the fire department; and
 - 2. Such certification or the logo, wordmark, or name of such accredited testing laboratory is displayed on packaging or documentation provided at the time of sale for such powered bicycle; or directly on such powered bicycle or the battery of such bicycle.

(b) No person shall distribute, sell, lease, rent, or offer for sale, lease, or rental, a powered mobility device unless:

1. The electrical system for such powered mobility device has been certified by an accredited testing laboratory for compliance with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standard 2272, or such other safety standard as the jurisdiction has established by rule in consultation with the fire-EMS department; and
2. Such certification or the logo, wordmark, or name of such accredited testing laboratory is displayed on packaging or documentation provided at the time of sale for such powered mobility device; or directly on such powered mobility device or the battery of such device.

(c) No person shall distribute, sell, lease, rent or offer for sale, lease or rental a storage battery for a powered bicycle or powered mobility device unless:

1. Such storage battery has been certified by an accredited testing laboratory for compliance with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standard 2271, or such other safety standard as the jurisdiction has established by rule in consultation with the fire-EMS department; and
2. Such certification, or the logo, wordmark, or name of such accredited testing laboratory is displayed on packaging or documentation provided at the time of sale for such storage battery; or directly on such storage battery.

Section 11-44. -Exceptions

No powered bicycle or powered mobility device, or storage battery for a powered bicycle or powered mobility device, shall be required to display the certification or the logo, wordmark, or name of an accredited testing laboratory as required by Section 11-43 above if such powered bicycle, powered mobility device, or storage battery is being sold or leased second-hand, or rented in a transaction between private individuals who are not in the business of selling or leasing such devices **and** the device does not include packaging or printed documentation, at the time of distribution, sale, lease, rental or offer for sale, lease or rental, as applicable.

Section 11-44. -Penalties.

Any person violating any provision of this article shall, upon conviction in the recorder's court, be punished as provided in [section 1-8](#) of this Code. Forfeiture of a cash bond in lieu of appearance in recorder's court by the person cited for a violation of this article shall not be a bar to a subsequent prosecution for the same violation. Any person violating any provision of this article shall be fined a minimum of \$500.00 for the first offense and shall be fined a minimum of \$1,000.00 for a second and each subsequent offense at the same business location. Each sale or lease which fails to comply with Section 11-43 with respect to any one stock keeping unit constitutes a separate violation.”

SECTION 2.

If any part of this ordinance conflicts with any other applicable federal, state, or local regulation, the more restrictive regulation shall control.

SECTION 3.

If any section, clause, portion or provision of this ordinance is found unconstitutional, such invalidity shall not affect any other portion of this ordinance.

SECTION 4.

This ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after signing by the Mayor and transmission to the Clerk of Council.

SECTION 5.

All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the 8th day of July 2025; and introduced on second reading at a regular meeting of said Council held on the ____ day of ____, 2025 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ten members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Anker	voting _____
Councilor Chambers	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Hickey	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

Lindsey G. McLemore
Clerk of Council

B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III
Mayor

File Attachments for Item:

3. 1st Reading: An Ordinance amending the Columbus Code to repeal and replace Section 14-13. with a new code section that prohibits camping on public property within Columbus, Georgia, and for other purposes. (Councilor Crabb)

ORDINANCE

NO. _____

An Ordinance amending the Columbus Code to repeal and replace Section 14-13. with a new code section that prohibits camping on public property within Columbus, Georgia, and for other purposes.

THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1.

Article I of Chapter 14 of the Columbus Code is hereby amended by repealing section 14-13. **Camping with vehicles** and replacing it with a new Section 14-13 which shall read as follows:

“Sec. 14-13. Urban camping and improper use of public places.

(a) Definitions. The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this section 14-13., shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Bridge means a structure, including the approaches thereto, erected in order to afford passage over any obstruction in any public road, railroad, or other right-of-way; or to afford passage under or over existing public roads, railroads, or other rights-of-way. As used in this section the definition of "Bridge" shall include a controlled access highway overpass as defined herein.

Camp or *camping* means the use of a street, sidewalk, other right-of-way, other park or public land owned by Columbus, Georgia and/or any area underneath a bridge, within Columbus, Georgia for living accommodation purposes such as sleeping activities, or making preparations to sleep (including the laying down of bedding for the purpose of sleeping), or storing personal belongings, or making a fire, or carrying on cooking activities, or using a tent, a vehicle or other structure for habitation. These activities constitute camping if, in light of all the circumstances, it reasonably appears that in conducting one or more of these activities, the participant is in fact using the area as a living accommodation, regardless of the intent of the participant or the nature of any other activities in which s/he may also be engaging. For purposes of this section 14-13(a), the terms "camp" and "camping" do not include activity that occurs solely within city-owned parks in accordance with programs permitted by the Columbus Department of Parks and Recreation or property leased by the City to a licensed business running a campground or RV park.

City means Columbus, Georgia/Muscogee County.

Controlled access highway overpass means a crossing of two controlled access highways or of a controlled access highway and other public road, pedestrian path, railroad or public right-of-way at different levels where clearance to traffic on the lower level is obtained by elevating the higher level.

Interference (or interfere) with ingress and egress means standing, sitting, lying down, using personal property, or performing any other activity on public property and/or in a park, where such activity: a) materially interferes with the ingress into and egress from buildings, driveways, streets, alleys, or any other real property that has a limited number of entrances/exits, regardless of whether the property is owned by the city, a private owner or another public entity; b) reasonably appears, in light of all of the circumstances, to have the purpose of blocking ingress and egress; and c) occurs without the express written permission of the owner of the property at issue. Where written permission has been granted, the individuals interfering with ingress and egress must have possession of the permission at the time of the activity in question.

Park or parks means any city-owned park.

Public property means any street, sidewalk, public land or park and/or other right-of-way, within Columbus, Georgia.

Storing (or store) personal property means leaving one's personal effects unattended on public property, in any area underneath a bridge, and/or in a park, such as but not limited to clothing, bedrolls, cookware, sleeping bags, luggage, knapsacks, or backpacks. This term does not include parking a bicycle or other modes of transportation.

- (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to camp on any public property subject to the exceptions set forth herein.
- (c) It shall be unlawful for any person to store personal property on any public property subject to the exceptions set forth herein.
- (d) It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with ingress and egress to or from any public property.
- (e) No person may be arrested for violating this code section until s/he has received an oral or written warning from the Columbus Police Department to cease the prohibited conduct. If the violator fails to comply with the warning issued within one hour, s/he may be arrested for violation of this code section.
- (f) Where unattended personal property is stored in violation of subsection (c) above, the Columbus Police Department shall notify the Public Works Department which shall remove and transport any such property to the public landfill. A minimum of thirty minutes shall be allotted prior to such removal and transport of such property. .
- (g) The prohibitions set forth in subsections (b), (c), or (d) above shall not apply during an outdoor event for which a written permit is issued by a city official or Uptown Columbus official on property where the outdoor event is located, as set forth in the terms of the official permit, unless the permit explicitly prohibits the activity.

DRAFT

(h) The prohibitions set forth in this section 14-13. shall not apply to city, state, or county officials or employees acting in their official capacity, performing the activities as part of their official city duties.

(i) The prohibitions set forth in this section 14-13. shall not apply to city, state, or county contractors or subcontractors where said activities are associated and performed in conjunction with the scope of work set forth in the city contract.

(j) Any person violating any provision of this section 14-13. shall, upon conviction in the recorder's court, be punished as provided in [section 1-8](#) of this Code.”

SECTION 2.

If any section, clause, portion or provision of this ordinance is found unconstitutional, such invalidity shall not affect any other portion of this ordinance.

SECTION 3.

This ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after signing by the Mayor and transmission to the Clerk of Council.

SECTION 4.

All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the 22nd day of July 2025; and introduced on second reading at a regular meeting of said Council held on the ____ day of ____, 2025 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____.
Councilor Anker	voting _____.
Councilor Chambers	voting _____.
Councilor Cogle	voting _____.
Councilor Crabb	voting _____.
Councilor Davis	voting _____.
Councilor Garrett	voting _____.
Councilor Hickey	voting _____.
Councilor Huff	voting _____.
Councilor Tucker	voting _____.

Lindsey G. McLemore
Clerk of Council

B. H. “Skip” Henderson, III
Mayor

File Attachments for Item:

4. A Resolution amending Resolution No. 020-23 to consent to the extension by the Columbus Water Works of a \$11,230,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority up to and until February 1, 2027. (Request of Columbus Water Works)

RESOLUTION**NO. _____**

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 020-23, adopted on January 24th, 2023, this Council approved a request by the Board of Water Commissioners of Columbus, Georgia, (“the Board”) to authorize its acceptance of State Revolving Loan funds from the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund ("CWSRF") administered by the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (“GEFA”) in the amount of \$11,230,000; and

WHEREAS, the resolution specifically provided that said loan would constitute a limited obligation debt of Columbus, solely payable out of the funds of the CWW to include present and future revenues as well as a reserve fund to be set aside for such purposes; and

WHEREAS, the resolution further authorized appropriate CCG officials to execute, along with the CWW, a loan agreement evidencing the aforementioned loan (the “Loan Agreement”); and

WEHREAS, by resolution dated June 16th, 2025, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, the Board requested that GEFA allow the “Completion Date” set forth and defined in the Loan Agreement to be modified and extended through February 1, 2027, and GEFA has consented to this modification of the Loan Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

The modification and extension of the “Completion Date”, as such term is specifically defined in the Loan Agreement as set forth above, is hereby approved; and all other terms of Resolution No. 020-23 are hereby ratified and confirmed. The Mayor, and any other CCG officials as he may designate, are hereby authorized to execute a written modification of the Loan Agreement, in substantially the form attached as Exhibit B, and any other documents necessary to the transaction, on behalf of the Columbus Consolidated Government.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the 22nd day of July 2025 adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____.
Councilor Anker	voting _____.
Councilor Chambers	voting _____.
Councilor Cogle	voting _____.
Councilor Crabb	voting _____.
Councilor Davis	voting _____.
Councilor Garrett	voting _____.
Councilor Hickey	voting _____.
Councilor Huff	voting _____.
Councilor Tucker	voting _____.

Lindsey G. McLemore,
Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson,
Mayor

RESOLUTION

Item #4.

Whereas, the Columbus Board of Water Commissioners has identified the need to extend the execution dates of certain Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) loans to allow for the continued progress and completion of key projects, and

Whereas, the three loans titled CW2020020, CW2020020A, and DW2020030 are essential to the financing of these projects and require an extension of their respective completion dates to meet revised project timelines, and

Whereas, delays in the completion of these projects were caused by long lead time for electrical components and project redesign to value engineer projects to get them within budget due to inflation.

Whereas, Columbus Water Works has determined that extending the completion dates of these loans will support the ongoing work without compromising financial or operational objectives, and

Whereas, the revised completion dates for these loans will be as follows: February 2027 for loan CW2020020, February 2027 for loans CW2020020A and November 2026 for loan DW2020030, allowing adequate time for successful project completion,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the President and/or Senior Vice President of Finance of Columbus Water Works is hereby authorized to proceed with the necessary arrangements to extend the completion dates of the GEFA loans CW2020020, CW2020020A, and DW2020030 as specified, pending any required approvals.

So Resolved this 16th Day of June 2025.



Chairman



Vice Chairman



Member



Member

Member

ATTEST:




EXHIBIT B

**CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND, ADMINISTERED BY GEORGIA
ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY**

(a public corporation duly created and
existing under the laws of
the State of Georgia)
as Lender

and

**COLUMBUS GEORGIA BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
DBA/COLUMBUS WATER WORKS**

(a public body corporate and politic duly created and existing
under the laws of the State of Georgia)
as Borrower
and

CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT OF COLUMBUS GEORGIA
(a political subdivision of the State of Georgia)

MODIFICATION OF PROMISSORY NOTE AND LOAN AGREEMENT

MODIFICATION OF PROMISSORY NOTE AND LOAN AGREEMENT

THIS MODIFICATION
 "Modification") dated _____
 CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT
 the State of Georgia (the "City
 COMMISSIONERS DBA THE
 "Water Works" or "Borrower")
 ADMINISTERED BY GEORGIA
 public corporation (the "Lender").

**DO NOT
 DATE THIS
 PAGE**

AND LOAN AGREEMENT (this
 _____, 20____, by and between
 ORGIA, a political subdivision of
 GEORGIA BOARD OF WATER
 WORKS, a Georgia body politic (the
 STATE REVOLVING FUND,
 FINANCE AUTHORITY, a Georgia

Statement of Facts

A. The Lender and the Borrower are parties to that certain Loan Agreement, dated **MAY 5, 2023**, as amended prior to the date hereof (as so amended, the "Loan Agreement"; all capitalized terms used in this Modification but not defined herein have the meanings given in the Loan Agreement), pursuant to which the Lender made a loan to the Borrower in accordance with the terms and conditions thereof. The Borrower's obligation to repay such loan is evidenced by that certain Promissory Note, dated **APRIL 20, 2023**, as amended prior to the date hereof (as so amended, the "Note").

B. The Lender and the Borrower desire to modify the Loan Agreement and Note in certain respects in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises, the covenants and agreements contained herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, the Lender and the Borrower further agree as follows:

Statement of Terms

1. Amendments of Note - Subject to the fulfillment of the conditions precedent to the effectiveness of this Modification that are set forth below, the Note is hereby amended as follows:

Accrued interest on this Note shall be payable monthly on the first day of each calendar month until the first day of the calendar month following the earlier of (1) the Completion Date (as defined in the hereinafter defined Loan Agreement), (2) **FEBRUARY 1, 2027**, or (3) the date that the loan evidenced by this Note is fully disbursed (the "**Amortization Commencement Date**"). Principal of and interest on this Note shall be payable in **TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE (239)** consecutive monthly installments equal to the Installment Amount (as hereinafter defined), commencing on the first day of the calendar month following the Amortization Commencement Date, and continuing to be due on the first day of each succeeding calendar month thereafter, together with a final installment equal to the entire remaining unpaid principal balance of and all accrued

interest on this Note, which shall be due and payable on the date that is **20** years from the Amortization Commencement Date (the "**Maturity Date**").

2. Amendments of Loan Agreement - Subject to the fulfillment of the conditions precedent to the effectiveness of this Modification that are set forth below, the Loan Agreement is hereby amended as follows:

Section 2 (a) of the Loan Agreement is hereby amended and restated to read as follows: "The Lender agrees to advance to the Borrower, on or prior to the earlier of (1) the Completion Date (as hereinafter defined), (2) **FEBRUARY 1, 2027**, or (3) the date that the loan evidenced by this Note is fully disbursed, the Loan in a principal amount of up to **\$11,230,200** which Loan may be disbursed in one or more advances but each such disbursement shall reduce the Lender's loan commitment hereunder and any sums advanced hereunder may not be repaid and then re-borrowed."

Exhibit A is amended and restated to read as written in the attached Exhibit A.

3. No Other Waivers or Amendments - Except for the amendments expressly set forth and referred to in Section 1 and 2 above, the Note and the Loan Agreement shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect. Nothing in this Modification is intended, or shall be construed, to constitute a novation or an accord and satisfaction of any of the obligations created by the Note.

4. Representations and Warranties - To induce the Lender to enter into this Modification, the Borrower does hereby warrant, represent, and covenant to the Lender that: (a) each representation or warranty of the Borrower set forth in the Loan Agreement is hereby restated and reaffirmed as true and correct on and as of the date hereof as if such representation or warranty were made on and as of the date hereof (except to the extent that any such representation or warranty expressly relates to a prior specific date or period), and no Event of Default has occurred and is continuing as of this date under the Loan Agreement; and (b) the Borrower has the power and is duly authorized to enter into, deliver, and perform this Modification, and this Modification is the legal, valid, and binding obligation of the Borrower enforceable against it in accordance with its terms.

5. Conditions Precedent to Effectiveness of this Modification - The effectiveness of this Modification is subject to the truth and accuracy in all material respects of the representations and warranties of the Borrower contained in Section 4 above and to the fulfillment of the following additional conditions precedent:

a. the Lender shall have received one or more counterparts of this Modification duly executed and delivered by the Borrower; and

b. the Lender shall have received (1) a signed opinion of counsel to the Borrower, substantially in the form of Exhibit E attached hereto, and (2) a certified copy of the resolution adopted by the Borrower's governing body, substantially in the form of Exhibit F attached hereto.

6. Counterparts - This Modification may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original and all of which when taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

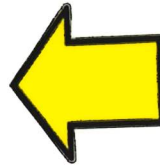
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Modification to be duly executed and delivered as of the date specified at the beginning hereof

COLUMBUS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS/DBA COLUMBUS WATER WORKS, BORROWER

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____



Attest: _____

Name:

Title: _____

(SEAL)



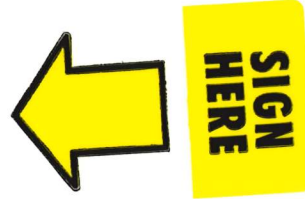
Approved as to Form:

Borrower's Attorney

**CONSENTED TO BY:
CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT OF COLUMBUS GEORGIA**

By: _____
Name:

Title:



Attest:

Name:

Title:

(SEAL)



Approved as to Form:

City Attorney

**CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND, ADMINISTERED BY GEORGIA
ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY**

By: _____
Hunter Hill
Executive Director

(SEAL)

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

SCOPE OF WORK

**Recipient: COLUMBUS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS /DBA
COLUMBUS WATER WORKS**

Loan Number: CW2020020A

This project will rehabilitate the wastewater treatment facilities, the sewer collection system, and related appurtenances.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

PROJECT BUDGET

Recipient: COLUMBUS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS /DBA
COLUMBUS WATER WORKS

Loan Number: CW2020020A

ITEM	TOTAL	CW2020020	CW2020020A
Construction	\$16,254,000	\$8,969,000	\$7,285,000
Contingency	4,876,200	2,355,000	2,521,200
Engineering & Inspection	3,400,000	1,976,000	1,424,000
Administrative/Legal	-	-	
TOTAL	\$24,530,200	\$13,300,000	\$11,230,200

*The amounts shown above in each budget item are estimates. Borrower may adjust the amounts within the various budget items without prior Lender approval provided Borrower does not exceed the loan amount contained in Section 1 of the Loan Agreement. In no event shall Lender be liable for any amount exceeding the loan amount contained in Section 1 of the Loan Agreement.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**PROJECT SCHEDULE**

Recipient: COLUMBUS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS /DBA
COLUMBUS WATER WORKS

Loan Number: CW2020020A

ACTION	DATE
Plans and Specifications submitted to EPD	APRIL 2021
Bid Opening	AUGUST 2021
Notice to Proceed with Construction	NOVEMBER 2021
Completion of Construction	OCTOBER 2026

File Attachments for Item:

5. A Resolution amending Resolution No. 076-21 to consent to the extension by the Columbus Water Works of a \$13,300,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority up to and until February 1, 2027. (Request of Columbus Water Works)

A RESOLUTION**NO. _____**

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 076-21, adopted on March 23rd, 2021, this Council approved a request by the Board of Water Commissioners of Columbus, Georgia, (“the Board”) to authorize its acceptance of State Revolving Loan funds from the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (“CWSRF”) administered by the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (“GEFA”) in the amount of \$13,300,000; and

WHEREAS, the resolution specifically provided that said loan would constitute a limited obligation debt of Columbus, solely payable out of the funds of the CWW to include present and future revenues as well as a reserve fund to be set aside for such purposes; and

WHEREAS, the resolution further authorized appropriate CCG officials to execute, along with the CWW, a loan agreement evidencing the aforementioned loan (the “Loan Agreement”); and

WEHREAS, by resolution dated June 16th, 2025, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, the Board requested that GEFA allow the “Completion Date” set forth and defined in the Loan Agreement to be modified and extended through February 1, 2027, and GEFA has consented to this modification of the Loan Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

The modification and extension of the “Completion Date”, as such term is specifically defined in the Loan Agreement as set forth above, is hereby approved; and all other terms of Resolution No. 077-21 are hereby ratified and confirmed. The Mayor, and any other CCG officials as he may designate, are hereby authorized to execute a written modification of the Loan Agreement, in substantially the form attached as Exhibit B, and any other documents necessary to the transaction, on behalf of the Columbus Consolidated Government.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the 22nd day of July 2025 adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____.
Councilor Anker	voting _____.
Councilor Chambers	voting _____.
Councilor Cogle	voting _____.
Councilor Crabb	voting _____.
Councilor Davis	voting _____.
Councilor Garrett	voting _____.
Councilor Hickey	voting _____.
Councilor Huff	voting _____.
Councilor Tucker	voting _____.

Lindsey G. McLemore,
Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson,
Mayor

RESOLUTION

Item #5.

Whereas, the Columbus Board of Water Commissioners has identified the need to extend the execution dates of certain Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) loans to allow for the continued progress and completion of key projects, and

Whereas, the three loans titled CW2020020, CW2020020A, and DW2020030 are essential to the financing of these projects and require an extension of their respective completion dates to meet revised project timelines, and

Whereas, delays in the completion of these projects were caused by long lead time for electrical components and project redesign to value engineer projects to get them within budget due to inflation.

Whereas, Columbus Water Works has determined that extending the completion dates of these loans will support the ongoing work without compromising financial or operational objectives, and

Whereas, the revised completion dates for these loans will be as follows: February 2027 for loan CW2020020, February 2027 for loans CW2020020A and November 2026 for loan DW2020030, allowing adequate time for successful project completion,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the President and/or Senior Vice President of Finance of Columbus Water Works is hereby authorized to proceed with the necessary arrangements to extend the completion dates of the GEFA loans CW2020020, CW2020020A, and DW2020030 as specified, pending any required approvals.

So Resolved this 16th Day of June 2025.




Chairman


Vice Chairman


Member


Member


Member

ATTEST:

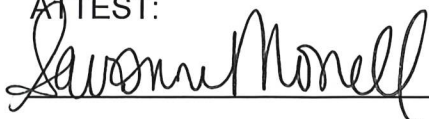

Savonne R. Monell

EXHIBIT B

**CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND, ADMINISTERED BY GEORGIA
ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY**

(a public corporation duly created and
existing under the laws of
the State of Georgia)
as Lender

and

**COLUMBUS GEORGIA BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
DBA/COLUMBUS WATER WORKS**

(a public body corporate and politic duly created and existing
under the laws of the State of Georgia)
as Borrower
and

CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT OF COLUMBUS GEORGIA
(a political subdivision of the State of Georgia)

MODIFICATION OF PROMISSORY NOTE AND LOAN AGREEMENT

MODIFICATION OF PROMISSORY NOTE AND LOAN AGREEMENT

THIS MODIFICATION OF PROMISSORY NOTE AND LOAN AGREEMENT (this "Modification") dated _____, 20____, by and between CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA (the "Borrower") and the GEORGIA BOARD OF WATER WORKS, a Georgia body politic (the "Lender"), is hereby amended by the GEORGIA BOARD OF WATER WORKS, a Georgia body politic (the "Lender"), to the STATE REVOLVING FUND, FINANCE AUTHORITY, a Georgia public corporation (the "Lender").

**DO NOT
DATE THIS
PAGE**

Statement of Facts

A. The Lender and the Borrower are parties to that certain Loan Agreement, dated **APRIL 13, 2021**, as amended prior to the date hereof (as so amended, the "Loan Agreement"; all capitalized terms used in this Modification but not defined herein have the meanings given in the Loan Agreement), pursuant to which the Lender made a loan to the Borrower in accordance with the terms and conditions thereof. The Borrower's obligation to repay such loan is evidenced by that certain Promissory Note, dated **APRIL 6, 2021**, as amended prior to the date hereof (as so amended, the "Note").

B. The Lender and the Borrower desire to modify the Loan Agreement and Note in certain respects in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises, the covenants and agreements contained herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, the Lender and the Borrower further agree as follows:

Statement of Terms

1. Amendments of Note - Subject to the fulfillment of the conditions precedent to the effectiveness of this Modification that are set forth below, the Note is hereby amended as follows:

Accrued interest on this Note shall be payable monthly on the first day of each calendar month until the first day of the calendar month following the earlier of (1) the Completion Date (as defined in the hereinafter defined Loan Agreement), (2) **FEBRUARY 1, 2027**, or (3) the date that the loan evidenced by this Note is fully disbursed (the "**Amortization Commencement Date**"). Principal of and interest on this Note shall be payable in **TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE (239)** consecutive monthly installments equal to the Installment Amount (as hereinafter defined), commencing on the first day of the calendar month following the Amortization Commencement Date, and continuing to be due on the first day of each succeeding calendar month thereafter, together with a final installment equal to the entire remaining unpaid principal balance of and all accrued

interest on this Note, which shall be due and payable on the date that is **20** years from the Amortization Commencement Date (the "**Maturity Date**").

2. Amendments of Loan Agreement - Subject to the fulfillment of the conditions precedent to the effectiveness of this Modification that are set forth below, the Loan Agreement is hereby amended as follows:

Section 2 (a) of the Loan Agreement is hereby amended and restated to read as follows: "The Lender agrees to advance to the Borrower, on or prior to the earlier of (1) the Completion Date (as hereinafter defined), (2) **FEBRUARY 1, 2027**, or (3) the date that the loan evidenced by this Note is fully disbursed, the Loan in a principal amount of up to **\$13,300,000** which Loan may be disbursed in one or more advances but each such disbursement shall reduce the Lender's loan commitment hereunder and any sums advanced hereunder may not be repaid and then re-borrowed."

Exhibit A is amended and restated to read as written in the attached Exhibit A.

3. No Other Waivers or Amendments - Except for the amendments expressly set forth and referred to in Section 1 and 2 above, the Note and the Loan Agreement shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect. Nothing in this Modification is intended, or shall be construed, to constitute a novation or an accord and satisfaction of any of the obligations created by the Note.

4. Representations and Warranties - To induce the Lender to enter into this Modification, the Borrower does hereby warrant, represent, and covenant to the Lender that: (a) each representation or warranty of the Borrower set forth in the Loan Agreement is hereby restated and reaffirmed as true and correct on and as of the date hereof as if such representation or warranty were made on and as of the date hereof (except to the extent that any such representation or warranty expressly relates to a prior specific date or period), and no Event of Default has occurred and is continuing as of this date under the Loan Agreement; and (b) the Borrower has the power and is duly authorized to enter into, deliver, and perform this Modification, and this Modification is the legal, valid, and binding obligation of the Borrower enforceable against it in accordance with its terms.

5. Conditions Precedent to Effectiveness of this Modification - The effectiveness of this Modification is subject to the truth and accuracy in all material respects of the representations and warranties of the Borrower contained in Section 4 above and to the fulfillment of the following additional conditions precedent:

a. the Lender shall have received one or more counterparts of this Modification duly executed and delivered by the Borrower; and

b. the Lender shall have received (1) a signed opinion of counsel to the Borrower, substantially in the form of Exhibit E attached hereto, and (2) a certified copy of the resolution adopted by the Borrower's governing body, substantially in the form of Exhibit F attached hereto.

6. Counterparts - This Modification may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original and all of which when taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Modification to be duly executed and delivered as of the date specified at the beginning hereof

COLUMBUS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS/DBA COLUMBUS WATER WORKS, BORROWER

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____



Attest:

Name:

Title:

(SEAL)



Approved as to Form:

Borrower's Attorney

**CONSENTED TO BY:
CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT OF COLUMBUS GEORGIA**

By: _____
Name:

Title:



Attest:

Name:

Title:

(SEAL)



Approved as to Form:

City Attorney

**CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND, ADMINISTERED BY GEORGIA
ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY**

By: _____
Hunter Hill
Executive Director

(SEAL)

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

SCOPE OF WORK

**Recipient: COLUMBUS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS /DBA
COLUMBUS WATER WORKS**

Loan Number: CW2020020

This project will rehabilitate the wastewater treatment facilities, the sewer collection system, and related appurtenances.

**EXHIBIT A
PAGE 2 OF 3****DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT****PROJECT BUDGET**

Recipient: COLUMBUS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS /DBA
COLUMBUS WATER WORKS

Loan Number: CW2020020

ITEM	TOTAL	CWSRF
Construction	\$8,969,000	\$8,969,000
Contingency	2,355,000	2,355,000
Engineering & Inspection	1,976,000	1,976,000
Administrative/Legal	-	-
TOTAL	\$13,300,000	\$13,300,000

*The amounts shown above in each budget item are estimates. Borrower may adjust the amounts within the various budget items without prior Lender approval provided Borrower does not exceed the loan amount contained in Section 1 of the Loan Agreement. In no event shall Lender be liable for any amount exceeding the loan amount contained in Section 1 of the Loan Agreement.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**PROJECT SCHEDULE**

Recipient: COLUMBUS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS /DBA
COLUMBUS WATER WORKS

Loan Number: CW2020020

ACTION	DATE
Plans and Specifications submitted to EPD	APRIL 2021
Bid Opening	AUGUST 2021
Notice to Proceed with Construction	NOVEMBER 2021
Completion of Construction	OCTOBER 2026

File Attachments for Item:

6. A Resolution amending Resolution No. 078-21 to consent to the extension by the Columbus Water Works of a \$22,439,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority up to and until November 1, 2026. (Request of Columbus Water Works)

A RESOLUTION**NO. _____**

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 078-21, adopted on March 23rd, 2021, this Council approved a request by the Board of Water Commissioners of Columbus, Georgia, (“the Board”) to authorize its acceptance of State Revolving Loan funds from the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (“CWSRF”) administered by the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (“GEFA”) in the amount of \$22,439,000; and

WHEREAS, the resolution specifically provided that said loan would constitute a limited obligation debt of Columbus, solely payable out of the funds of the CWW to include present and future revenues as well as a reserve fund to be set aside for such purposes; and

WHEREAS, the resolution further authorized appropriate CCG officials to execute, along with the CWW, a loan agreement evidencing the aforementioned loan (the “Loan Agreement”); and

WEHREAS, by resolution dated June 16th, 2025, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, the Board requested that GEFA allow the “Completion Date” set forth and defined in the Loan Agreement to be modified and extended through November 1, 2026, and GEFA has consented to this modification of the Loan Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

The modification and extension of the “Completion Date”, as such term is specifically defined in the Loan Agreement as set forth above, is hereby approved; and all other terms of Resolution No. 078-21 are hereby ratified and confirmed. The Mayor, and any other CCG officials as he may designate, are hereby authorized to execute a written modification of the Loan Agreement, in substantially the form attached as Exhibit B, and any other documents necessary to the transaction, on behalf of the Columbus Consolidated Government.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the 22nd day of July 2025 adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____.
Councilor Anker	voting _____.
Councilor Chambers	voting _____.
Councilor Cogle	voting _____.
Councilor Crabb	voting _____.
Councilor Davis	voting _____.
Councilor Garrett	voting _____.
Councilor Hickey	voting _____.
Councilor Huff	voting _____.
Councilor Tucker	voting _____.

Lindsey G. McLemore,
Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson,
Mayor

RESOLUTION

Item #6.

Whereas, the Columbus Board of Water Commissioners has identified the need to extend the execution dates of certain Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) loans to allow for the continued progress and completion of key projects, and

Whereas, the three loans titled CW2020020, CW2020020A, and DW2020030 are essential to the financing of these projects and require an extension of their respective completion dates to meet revised project timelines, and

Whereas, delays in the completion of these projects were caused by long lead time for electrical components and project redesign to value engineer projects to get them within budget due to inflation.

Whereas, Columbus Water Works has determined that extending the completion dates of these loans will support the ongoing work without compromising financial or operational objectives, and

Whereas, the revised completion dates for these loans will be as follows: February 2027 for loan CW2020020, February 2027 for loans CW2020020A and November 2026 for loan DW2020030, allowing adequate time for successful project completion,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the President and/or Senior Vice President of Finance of Columbus Water Works is hereby authorized to proceed with the necessary arrangements to extend the completion dates of the GEFA loans CW2020020, CW2020020A, and DW2020030 as specified, pending any required approvals.

So Resolved this 16th Day of June 2025.




Chairman


Vice Chairman


Member


Member

Member

ATTEST:


Savonne R. Monell

EXHIBIT B

**DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND, ADMINISTERED BY GEORGIA
ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY**

(a public corporation duly created and
existing under the laws of
the State of Georgia)
as Lender

and

**COLUMBUS GEORGIA BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
DBA/COLUMBUS WATER WORKS**

(a public body corporate and politic duly created and existing
under the laws of the State of Georgia)
as Borrower
and

CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT OF COLUMBUS GEORGIA
(a political subdivision of the State of Georgia)

MODIFICATION OF PROMISSORY NOTE AND LOAN AGREEMENT

MODIFICATION OF PROMISSORY NOTE AND LOAN AGREEMENT

THIS MODIFICATION OF **PROMISSORY NOTE AND LOAN AGREEMENT** (this "Modification") dated _____, 20____, by and between **CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA**, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia (the "City"), **ATLANTA-CLAY COUNTY WATERWORKS COMMISSIONERS DBA THE CITY OF ATLANTA WATERWORKS**, a Georgia body politic (the "Borrower"), and **THE STATE REVOLVING FUND, ADMINISTERED BY GEORGIA POWER CORPORATION**, a Georgia public corporation (the "Lender")

**DO NOT
DATE THIS
PAGE**

Statement of Facts

A. The Lender and the Borrower are parties to that certain Loan Agreement, dated **APRIL 13, 2021**, as amended prior to the date hereof (as so amended, the "Loan Agreement"; all capitalized terms used in this Modification but not defined herein have the meanings given in the Loan Agreement), pursuant to which the Lender made a loan to the Borrower in accordance with the terms and conditions thereof. The Borrower's obligation to repay such loan is evidenced by that certain Promissory Note, dated **APRIL 6, 2021**, as amended prior to the date hereof (as so amended, the "Note").

B. The Lender and the Borrower desire to modify the Loan Agreement and Note in certain respects in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises, the covenants and agreements contained herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, the Lender and the Borrower further agree as follows:

Statement of Terms

1. Amendments of Note - Subject to the fulfillment of the conditions precedent to the effectiveness of this Modification that are set forth below, the Note is hereby amended as follows:

Accrued interest on this Note shall be payable monthly on the first day of each calendar month until the first day of the calendar month following the earlier of (1) the Completion Date (as defined in the hereinafter defined Loan Agreement), (2) **NOVEMBER 1, 2026**, or (3) the date that the loan evidenced by this Note is fully disbursed (the "**Amortization Commencement Date**"). Principal of and interest on this Note shall be payable in **TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE (239)** consecutive monthly installments equal to the Installment Amount (as hereinafter defined), commencing on the first day of the calendar month following the Amortization Commencement Date, and continuing to be due on the first day of each succeeding calendar month thereafter, together with a final installment equal to the entire remaining unpaid principal balance of and all accrued

interest on this Note, which shall be due and payable on the date that is **20** years from the Amortization Commencement Date (the "**Maturity Date**").

2. Amendments of Loan Agreement - Subject to the fulfillment of the conditions precedent to the effectiveness of this Modification that are set forth below, the Loan Agreement is hereby amended as follows:

Section 2 (a) of the Loan Agreement is hereby amended and restated to read as follows: "The Lender agrees to advance to the Borrower, on or prior to the earlier of (1) the Completion Date (as hereinafter defined), (2) **NOVEMBER 1, 2026**, or (3) the date that the loan evidenced by this Note is fully disbursed, the Loan in a principal amount of up to **\$22,493,000** which Loan may be disbursed in one or more advances but each such disbursement shall reduce the Lender's loan commitment hereunder and any sums advanced hereunder may not be repaid and then re-borrowed."

Exhibit A is amended and restated to read as written in the attached Exhibit A.

3. No Other Waivers or Amendments - Except for the amendments expressly set forth and referred to in Section 1 and 2 above, the Note and the Loan Agreement shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect. Nothing in this Modification is intended, or shall be construed, to constitute a novation or an accord and satisfaction of any of the obligations created by the Note.

4. Representations and Warranties - To induce the Lender to enter into this Modification, the Borrower does hereby warrant, represent, and covenant to the Lender that: (a) each representation or warranty of the Borrower set forth in the Loan Agreement is hereby restated and reaffirmed as true and correct on and as of the date hereof as if such representation or warranty were made on and as of the date hereof (except to the extent that any such representation or warranty expressly relates to a prior specific date or period), and no Event of Default has occurred and is continuing as of this date under the Loan Agreement; and (b) the Borrower has the power and is duly authorized to enter into, deliver, and perform this Modification, and this Modification is the legal, valid, and binding obligation of the Borrower enforceable against it in accordance with its terms.

5. Conditions Precedent to Effectiveness of this Modification - The effectiveness of this Modification is subject to the truth and accuracy in all material respects of the representations and warranties of the Borrower contained in Section 4 above and to the fulfillment of the following additional conditions precedent:

a. the Lender shall have received one or more counterparts of this Modification duly executed and delivered by the Borrower; and

b. the Lender shall have received (1) a signed opinion of counsel to the Borrower, substantially in the form of Exhibit E attached hereto, and (2) a certified copy of the resolution adopted by the Borrower's governing body, substantially in the form of Exhibit F attached hereto.

6. Counterparts - This Modification may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original and all of which when taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Modification to be duly executed and delivered as of the date specified at the beginning hereof

COLUMBUS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS/DBA COLUMBUS WATER WORKS, BORROWER

By: _____
Name:

Title:

Attest:

Name:

Title:

(SEAL)



Approved as to Form:

Borrower's Attorney

**CONSENTED TO BY:
CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT OF COLUMBUS GEORGIA**

By: _____

Name:

Title:

Attest:

Name:

Title:

(SEAL)



Approved as to Form:

City Attorney

**DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND, ADMINISTERED BY GEORGIA
ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY**

By: _____

Hunter Hill
Executive Director

(SEAL)

**EXHIBIT A
PAGE 1 OF 3**

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

SCOPE OF WORK

**Recipient: COLUMBUS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS /DBA
COLUMBUS WATER WORKS**

Loan Number: DW2020030

This project will make improvements to the water distribution system and related appurtenances.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**PROJECT BUDGET**

Recipient: COLUMBUS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS /DBA
COLUMBUS WATER WORKS

Loan Number: DW2020030

ITEM	TOTAL	DWSRF
Construction	\$16,652,552	\$16,652,552
Contingency	2,943,300	2,943,300
Engineering & Inspection	2,843,148	2,843,148
Administrative/Legal	-	-
TOTAL	\$22,439,000	\$22,439,000

*The amounts shown above in each budget item are estimates. Borrower may adjust the amounts within the various budget items without prior Lender approval provided Borrower does not exceed the loan amount contained in Section 1 of the Loan Agreement. In no event shall Lender be liable for any amount exceeding the loan amount contained in Section 1 of the Loan Agreement.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**PROJECT SCHEDULE**

**Recipient: COLUMBUS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS /DBA
COLUMBUS WATER WORKS**

Loan Number: DW2020030

ACTION	DATE
Plans and Specifications submitted to EPD	OCTOBER 2020
Bid Opening	DECEMBER 2020
Notice to Proceed with Construction	JANUARY 2021
Completion of Construction	JULY 2026

File Attachments for Item:

1. FY26 Public Defender Contract

Approval is requested to enter into an agreement between the Circuit Public Defender Office of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit and Muscogee County for Indigent Defense Services in the amount of \$2,761,935 and to authorize monthly payments to the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council (GPDSC) for said services in the amount of \$167,963.72 per month. The monthly amount is included in the total contract amount of \$2,761,935 and covers the cost of personnel services at \$191,586, as well as a 5% administrative fee of \$95,979.

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

Item #1.

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	FY26 Public Defender Contract
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to enter into an agreement between the Circuit Public Defender Office of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit and Muscogee County for Indigent Defense Services in the amount of \$2,761,935 and to authorize monthly payments to the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council (GPDSC) for said services in the amount of \$167,963.72 per month. The monthly amount is included in the total contract amount of \$2,761,935 and covers the cost of personnel services at \$191,586, as well as a 5% administrative fee of \$95,979.
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

Recommendation: Approval is requested to enter into an agreement between the Circuit Public Defender Office of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit and Muscogee County for Indigent Defense Services in the amount of \$2,761,935 and to authorize monthly payments to the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council (GPDSC) for said services in the amount of \$167,963.72 per month. The monthly amount is included in the total contract amount of \$2,761,935 and covers the cost of personnel services at \$191,586, as well as a 5% administrative fee of \$95,979.

Background: The Circuit Public Defender will provide public defender personnel in Superior, Juvenile, and Recorder's Courts totaling \$2,761,935 of which \$1,919,586 and an administrative fee of \$95,979 is paid in monthly installments to the GPDC for a total of \$2,015,565. These services include payroll, fringe benefits, training, travel, computer hardware, computer software and legal research software. Support staff and operational expenses are funded in the FY26 budget for a total of \$746,370. Included in this FY26 contract is a continuation of funding for two Assistant Public Defenders funded from the General Fund for the Rapid Resolution Initiative that began in FY16. This contract also includes funding for three (3) Assistant Public Defenders that were added in FY17 (2 APD's) and FY19 (1 APD) as well as supplements for the Chief Public Defender (\$20,000) and Assistant Chief Public Defender (\$15,000) due to providing representation in Recorder's Court. New to the FY26 budget is a pay adjustment for attorneys paid under this contract (excluding the Chief Public Defender and Assistant Chief Public Defender) to coincide with the GPDC state attorney pay scale for Assistant Public Defenders. In the contract, the prorated share of all costs are outlined as follows: Muscogee - \$2,602,448; Chattahoochee - \$5,125; Harris - \$114,000; Marion - \$12,193; Talbot - \$12,220; Taylor - \$15,949 for a total of \$2,761,935. Muscogee County acts as the fiscal agent for the Circuit Public Defender.

Analysis: The Circuit Public Defender, City Attorney's Office and the Finance Department have reviewed this contract.

Financial Considerations: The agreement is budgeted in the FY26 Adopted Budget.

Legal Considerations: The Columbus Consolidated Government is eligible to enter into this contract.

Recommendations/Actions: Approval is requested to enter into an agreement between the Circuit Public Defender Office of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit and Muscogee County for Indigent Defense Services in the amount of \$2,761,935 and to authorize monthly payments to the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council (GPDSC) for said services in the amount of \$167,963.72 per month. The monthly amount is included in the total contract amount of \$2,761,935 and covers the cost of personnel services at \$191,586, as well as a 5% administrative fee of \$95,979.

Item #1.

A RESOLUTION

Item #1.

NO.

A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES BETWEEN CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT AND MUSCOGEE COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,761,935 FROM JULY 2025 TO JUNE 2026 AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT TO THE GEORGIA PUBLIC DEFENDER COUNCIL (GPDC) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,015,565 PAID IN MONTHLY INSTALLMENTS OF \$167,963.72 OF WHICH IS INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT.

WHEREAS, the Circuit Public Defender Office of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit was created in January 2005 by the Georgia Indigent Defense Act of 2003 and provides that a consolidated government may contract with the circuit public defender for the provision of criminal defense for indigent persons in Superior and Juvenile courts; and,

WHEREAS, the contract specifies the amount of \$2,015,565 for state paid personnel and administrative fee for the period of July 2025 to June 2026 and Columbus Consolidated Government personnel and operating expenses of \$746,370 with Muscogee County's prorated share of all expenses to be \$2,602,448.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

That the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement for Indigent Defense Services between Circuit Public Defender Office of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit and Muscogee County in the amount of \$2,602,448 from July 2025 to June 2026 and authorize payment to the GPDC in the amount of \$1,919,586 plus the administrative fee of \$95,979 to be paid in monthly installments of \$167,963.72 which is included in the total amount; and authorize the Mayor to have signature authority.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the ____ day of ____, 2025 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Anker voting	_____.
Councilor Chambers voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor



GEORGIA INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into this ____ day of _____, 2025, between the Circuit Public Defender Office of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit (herein referred to as “**the Public Defender Office**”) and the governing authority of Columbus-Muscogee County, a body politic and a subdivision of the State of Georgia (herein referred to as “**the County**”) and is effective July 1, 2025.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Public Defender Office and the County enter into this agreement to implement the provisions of the Georgia Indigent Defense Act of 2003, as amended,

WHEREAS, GPDC is existing under the laws of the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the Public Defender Office is existing under the laws of the State of Georgia and operating under the laws and Constitution of the State of Georgia with full power to enter into contracts and agreements with other entities; and

WHEREAS, the County is a body politic, existing and operating under the laws and Constitution of the State of Georgia with full power to enter into contracts and agreements with other political entities; and

WHEREAS, the Public Defender Office is existing under the laws of the State of Georgia and operating under the laws and Constitution of the State of Georgia with full power to enter into contracts and agreements with other entities; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the parties to this agreement to provide for the operation of an indigent defense system to assure that adequate and effective legal representation is provided, independent of political considerations or private interests, to indigent defendants in criminal cases consistent with the standards adopted by the Georgia Public Defender Council. This system and this agreement include the following:

- (1) The provision by the Public Defender Office of the statutorily required services to the County;
- (2) The payment for additional personnel and services by the County;
- (3) The provision by the County of its pro rata share of the costs of appropriate offices, utilities, telephone expenses, materials, and supplies as may be necessary to equip, maintain, and furnish the office or offices of the circuit public defender in an orderly and efficient manner;
- (4) Travel advances and reimbursement of expenses; and
- (5) The provision for other matters necessary to carry out this agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and promises contained in the agreement and for Ten Dollars (\$10) and other good and valuable consideration, **IT IS AGREED AS FOLLOWS:**

ARTICLE 1

Item #1.

STATUTORY PERSONNEL

Section 1.01 Statutory Staffing. The Public Defender Office agrees to provide for the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit full-time staff for a circuit public defender office or offices consisting of a circuit public defender; an assistant public defender for each superior court judge authorized for the circuit, excluding the chief judge and senior judges; an investigator; and two additional persons to perform administrative, clerical or paraprofessional services.

Section 1.02 Statutory Services. The Public Defender Office agrees to provide representation to indigent defendants in the following cases:

- (1) Criminal cases prosecuted in the Superior Courts of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit under the laws of the State of Georgia in which there is a possibility that a sentence of imprisonment or probation or suspension of sentence of imprisonment may be adjudged;
- (2) Hearings in the Superior Courts of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit on a revocation of probation;
- (3) Cases prosecuted in the Juvenile Courts of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit in which a child may face a disposition in a delinquency case of confinement, commitment or probation; and
- (4) Direct appeals from a decision in cases described in (1), (2), and (3) above;
- (5) Columbus City Records Court as set out in Attachment B.

Section 1.03 Conflicts. The Georgia Public Defender Council agrees to provide for legal representation by an attorney who is not an employee of the Public Defender Office in cases described in Section 1.02 in which the Public Defender Office has a conflict of interest.

ARTICLE 2

ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL AND SERVICES

Section 2.01 Additional personnel and services. The Public Defender Office agrees to provide and the County agrees to pay for the services and personnel described in Attachment A. Attachment A is incorporated into this agreement by reference. The parties agree to the payment terms in Attachment A. Attachment A is incorporated into this agreement by reference. The amount to be paid includes a 5% administrative services fee. This fee is determined by the total amount for all of the budgeted positions. Upon expiration or termination of the agreement, any unused portion of the administrative services fee may be refunded to the County in the discretion of the Georgia Public Defender Council. Any changes to Attachment A shall be made in accordance with Section 5.06 of this agreement. Any additional personnel employed by the Public Defender Office pursuant to this section are full-time state paid employees of the Public Defender Office in the unclassified service of the State Merit System of Personnel Administration with all the benefits provided by law to employees in the unclassified service. The additional personnel shall serve at the pleasure of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit Public Defender. The parties agree that the employment of additional personnel employed by the Public Defender Office pursuant to this section may be terminated by the Public Defender Office if the County does not pay for the cost of these personnel in advance in accordance with this agreement.

Section 2.02 Additional County Employees. The County agrees to provide to the Public Defender Office employees who remain employees of the County. The County is the employer for these employees for all purposes, including, without limitation, compensation and employee benefits, but the employees are under the supervision of

the circuit public defender. The circuit public defender may utilize the duties and the title of these employees in the County Merit System. These employees include investigators and administrative personnel who are currently being paid **\$686,955** in salaries and benefits.

Section 2.03 Office expenses. The County agrees to pay the operational expenses in the amount of **\$59,415** which includes, but not limited to, appropriate offices, utilities, telephone expenses, materials, and supplies to equip, maintain, and furnish the office or offices of the Public Defender Office.

ARTICLE 3

PROVISION BY THE COUNTY OF ITS PRO RATA SHARE OF THE COSTS OF SALARY EXPENSE, APPROPRIATE OFFICES, UTILITIES, TELEPHONE EXPENSES, MATERIALS, AND SUPPLIES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO EQUIP, MAINTAIN, AND FURNISH THE OFFICE OR OFFICES OF THE CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER.

Section 3.01 Contributions. The parties to this agreement acknowledge that part of the total cost of the Public Defenders budget is to be reimbursed. As set out in Attachment A which is hereby incorporated into this agreement by reference.

Section 3.02 County Fiscal Agent. Columbus-Muscogee County is acting as fiscal agent to collect the monies from Chattahoochee, Harris, Marion, Talbot, and Taylor Counties. Installments from Chattahoochee, Harris, Marion, Talbot and Taylor Counties shall be paid to **Columbus Consolidated Government and forwarded to the Finance Director, Columbus Consolidated Government, P.O. Box 1340, Columbus GA 31902-1340.**

ARTICLE 4

TRAVEL AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

Section 4.01 Travel and expense reimbursement. The County agrees to provide travel advances and to reimburse expenses which may be incurred in the performance of the employee's official duties under this agreement by an employee of the Public Defender Office to the extent the expenses are not reimbursed by the state and to the extent the expenses are authorized by the circuit public defender and the County. The County shall provide the Public Defender Office with the information concerning the travel advances and expense reimbursements required by the State Auditor. The County agrees to reimburse employees' travel at the current rate 0.70 per mile or as published by the Internal Revenue Service, subject to the budget amount set forth in Article 3.

Section 4.02 Training. The County agrees to reimburse the State for training employees, subject to the budget amount set forth in Article 3.

Section 4.03 Computers. The County agrees to provide computer equipment required to perform their duties for the county employees covered under Section 2.02, subject to the budget amount set forth in Article 3.

Section 4.04 Legal Research. The County agrees to reimburse the State for the actual cost, subject to the budget amount set forth in Article 3.

ARTICLE 5

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 5.01 Term. The term of this agreement is 12 months beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026

Item #1.

Section 5.02 Maintenance of effort. The County agrees that it will continue to fund indigent defense for the term of this agreement, at a minimum, at the level of its most recent budgeted level of funding (fiscal year 2025 or fiscal year 2026 planned budget if that budget has already been adopted) for indigent defense and as part of this support each county agrees to provide the space, equipment and operating expenses necessary to effectively operate the circuit public defender office.

Section 5.03 Severability. Any section, subsection, paragraph, term, condition, provision or other part (hereinafter collectively referred to as “part”) of this agreement that is judged, held, found, or declared to be voidable, void, invalid, illegal or otherwise not fully enforceable shall not affect any other part of this agreement, and the remainder of this agreement shall continue to be of full force and effect. Any agreement of the parties to amend, modify, eliminate, or otherwise change any part of this agreement shall not affect any other part of this agreement, and the remainder of this agreement shall continue to be of full force and effect.

Section 5.04 Cooperation, dispute resolution and jurisdiction. (a) The Public Defender Office and the County acknowledge that this agreement may need to be revised periodically to address new or unforeseen matters.

(b) Each party to this agreement agrees to cooperate with the other party to effectuate and carry out the intent of this agreement.

(c) This agreement, and the rights and obligations of the parties, are governed by, and subject to and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia. The parties acknowledge and agree that by law, the exclusive jurisdiction for contract actions against the state, departments and agencies of the state, and state authorities is the Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia. The Parties further acknowledge that the Fulton Superior Court has a Court sponsored Arbitration and Mediation Program in which the Parties agree to fully participate.

Section 5.05 Notice. A notice to a party to this agreement shall be made in writing and shall be delivered by first class mail or personally to the person and at the address indicated below:

OFFICE OF CHATTAHOOCHEE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT:

Moffett Flournoy, Circuit Public Defender
420 – 10th Street
Columbus, Georgia 31901-2856

GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS-MUSCOGEE COUNTY, GA:

B.H. “Skip” Henderson III, Mayor
100 – 10th Street
Post Office Box 1340
Columbus, Georgia 31902-1340

GEORGIA PUBLIC DEFENDER COUNCIL:

Omotayo B. Alli, Director
104 Marietta Street, Suite 200
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Section 5.06 Reallocation of Funds. Funds budgeted as operational expenses may be reallocated by the circuit public defender for personnel costs so long as the amount to be reallocated does not exceed the total amount of the budget, subject to the express approval of the Columbus Council.

Section 5.07 Agreement modification. This agreement, including all attachments hereto, constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter of this agreement and may be altered or amended only by a subsequent written agreement of equal dignity; provided, however, that the parties' representatives identified in Section 5.05 may agree in writing by an exchange of letters or emails prior to the budget revision becoming effective to budget revisions which do not increase or decrease the total dollar value of the agreement. This agreement supersedes all prior agreements, negotiations and communications of whatever type, whether written or oral, between the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter of this agreement. After the agreement has been approved by the Director of the Georgia Public Defender Council, no modifications may be made without prior notice to the Director of the council.

Section 5.08 Termination. (a) **Due to non-availability of funds.** In the event that either of the sources of reimbursement for services under this agreement (appropriations from the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, or appropriations from the governing authority of the County) is reduced during the term of this agreement, the Public Defender Office may make financial and other adjustments to this agreement and notify the County accordingly. An adjustment may be an agreement amendment or may be the termination of the agreement. The certification by the director of the Georgia Public Defender Council of the occurrence of reduction in State funds is conclusive. The certification of the occurrence of the reduction in county funds by the person named in Section 5.05 by the County to receive notices is conclusive. The County shall promptly notify the Public Defender Office in writing on the non-existence or insufficiency of funds and the date of termination. The Public Defender Office shall then immediately cease providing the services required hereunder except for any necessary winding down and transition services required under Section 5.08. In lieu of terminating this agreement, the County and the Public Defender Office may make financial and other adjustments to this agreement by amending it pursuant to Section 5.06.

(b) **For cause.** This agreement may be terminated for cause, in whole or in part, at any time by either party for failure by the other party to substantially perform any of its duties under this agreement. "Cause" means a breach or default of any material obligation hereunder which default is incapable of cure, or which, being capable of cure, has not been cured within 30 days after receipt of notice of such default (or such additional cure period as the non-defaulting party may authorize). Should a party exercise its right to terminate this agreement under this subsection, the termination shall be accomplished in writing and specify the reason and the termination date. In the event of termination under this subsection the Public Defender Office shall submit a final agreement expenditure report containing all charges incurred through and including the termination date to the County no later than 30 days after the effective date of written notice of termination and the County shall pay the amount due within 15 days of the receipt of the final agreement expenditure report. Upon termination of this agreement, the Public Defender Office shall not incur any new obligations after the effective date of the termination, except as required under Section 5.08. The above remedies contained in this subsection are in addition to any other remedies provided by law or the terms of this agreement.

(c) **For Convenience.** This agreement may be cancelled or terminated by either of the parties without cause; however, the party seeking to terminate or cancel this agreement shall give written notice of its intention to do so to the other party at least 60 days prior to the effective date of cancellation or termination.

(d) **Post-termination obligations.** After termination of this agreement pursuant to this Section, the Public Defender Office and the County agree to comply with the provisions of Section 5.08 (a).

Section 5.09 Cooperation in transition of services. (a) **During or at the end of the agreement.** The Public Defender Office agrees upon suspension, termination, or expiration of this agreement, in whole or in part, for any reason to cooperate as requested by the County to effectuate the smooth and reasonable transition of services for existing clients. This includes but is not limited to the continuation of representation by Public Defender Office where appropriate or required by law, court rule or the State Bar of Georgia ethical standards or the facilitation of the timely transfer to the County of the client records. The County shall compensate the Public Defender for all post-suspension, post-termination, or post-expiration services under this subsection. The Public Defender Office shall

submit a monthly expenditure report containing all charges incurred during the preceding month on or before the first day of each month. The County shall pay the amount due within 15 days of the receipt of the monthly expenditure report. This subsection survives the suspension, termination, or expiration of the agreement.

(b) Statutory responsibility continuation. The Public Defender Office and the County acknowledge that both have responsibilities for indigent defense costs under the Georgia Indigent Defense Act of 2003, as amended and that the suspension, termination, or expiration of this agreement does not relieve either party of their responsibility under the law.

Section 5.10 Advance of Funds. The parties agree that advances of funds cannot remain outstanding following agreement suspension, termination, or expiration and will be reclaimed. The parties agree that upon termination of this agreement, for any reason, all unexpended and unobligated funds held by the parties revert to the party entitled to the funds. The parties agree to reconcile expenditures against advances of funds within 30 days of termination of this agreement.

Section 5.10 Time. Time is of the essence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have each here unto affixed their signatures the day and year first written above.

ATTEST:

Governing Authority of Columbus-Muscogee County, GA

BY: _____
B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit Office of the Public Defender

BY: _____
Moffett Flournoy
Circuit Public Defender

ATTEST:

APPROVED AND CONSENTED TO:
Georgia Public Defender Council

BY: _____
Omotayo B. Alli
Director

CHATTAHOOCHEE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Attachment A
July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

Item #1.

The County agrees to pay the Public Defender Office **\$2,015,565** in 12 monthly installments. Installments will be paid in advance directly to the Georgia Public Defender Council by the 15th day of each preceding month beginning on July 15, 2025.

Invoices will be sent to the following address:

**Finance Director
Columbus Consolidated Government
P. O. Box 1340
Columbus GA 31902-1340**

Installments will be paid directly to the GPDC at the following address:

**Georgia Public Defender Council
Attn: Jason Ring
104 Marietta Street, Suite 200
Atlanta GA 30303-2743**

The Public Defender Office agrees to use these funds for the purpose of paying the salary and benefits for the following positions or individuals in the amounts indicated as follows:

Total salary and benefits	5% Admin. Fee	Total Amount
\$1,919,586	\$95,979	\$2,015,565

The pro-rata share for the total costs for the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit are as follows:

<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Chattahoochee	\$ 5,125
Harris	114,000
Marion	12,193
Muscogee	2,602,448
Talbot	12,220
<u>Taylor</u>	<u>15,949</u>
Total	\$2,761,935

Columbus-Muscogee County is acting as fiscal agent to collect the monies from Chattahoochee, Harris, Marion, Talbot, and Taylor Counties. Installments from Chattahoochee, Harris, Marion, Talbot and Taylor Counties shall be paid to **Columbus Consolidated Government and forwarded to the Finance Director, Columbus Consolidated Government, P.O. Box 1340, Columbus GA 31902-1340.**

Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Definition of services in Article 1 Sec. 1.02, New paragraph (5)

The Office of the Public Defender will staff one single court for up to three Recorders Sessions daily, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 5:30 P.M.

All criminal cases that qualify to include but not limited to : Felony and Misdemeanor Preliminary Hearings. Misdemeanor, City Ordinance, and Traffic Bench Trials or Guilty Pleas.

This does not include Environmental Court, or additional traffic sessions.

Saturday and Holiday Sessions at \$175.00 per session may be paid directly by the City to the Public Defender assigned attorney.

Public Defenders reserve the sole right to declare legal conflicts in any case in Recorders Court. Should such conflicts arise, the City shall be responsible for providing the conflict representation and its cost.

Qualification for representation shall be based on the Standards and Income as set out annually by State law and the Federal Poverty guidelines.

All representation in these matters shall meet or exceed the Standards and Requirements as set forth by the United States and Georgia Constitutions, State Law, and Standards as promulgated by the Georgia Public Defender Council.

If one or both attorneys assigned to Recorders Court have to be out then the City shall provide coverage for those sessions using the conflict attorneys list and the City shall be responsible for payment of those services not to exceed \$15,000. The CPD or his designee shall immediately notify the Clerk of Recorders Court and the Chief Judge of the specific sessions that will be affected. Legitimate reasons requiring conflict attorney staffing include but are not limited to sick leave, vacation, obtaining required CLE, military duty or a staffing shortage.

This part of the contract is conditioned upon the Office of the Public Defender having sufficient attorneys to adequately staff all of the Superior and Juvenile Courts which we are statutorily mandated to cover as well as at least two attorneys in Recorders Court. If the Circuit Public Defender determines that the Superior and Juvenile Courts are not adequately staffed or that he does not have at least two attorneys in Recorders Court then in the sole discretion of the CPD he may terminate this contract with the City thus relieving the Circuit Public Defender's Office from staffing Recorders Court. Should the CPD seek to terminate this contract, he shall give the City not less than sixty (60) days written notice of such intent and shall continue, for sixty (60) days to staff Recorders Court.

And other matters as the Chattahoochee Circuit Public Defender may agree to.

File Attachments for Item:

2. Amendment to Extend the Subrecipient Agreements for Occupational Training and Retention

Approval is requested to amend the subrecipient agreements for Occupational Training (Internships, Work Experience, On-the-Job Training, and/or post-secondary training; and retention services) for economically disadvantaged (low-income) individuals residing in Muscogee County (for a total amount of \$995,503 or otherwise awarded Council approved the subrecipient agreements for Occupational Training on August 27, 2024. Request is made for the subaward periods of performance, budget periods, and expenditure reporting periods end date listed in Article II General Award Information; Sec. 15.1 Article XV Term; and Exhibit D Expenditure Reporting Schedule to be extended to September 30, 2026.

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

Item #2.

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Amendment to Extend the Subrecipient Agreements for Occupational Training and Retention
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to amend the subrecipient agreements for Occupational Training (Internships, Work Experience, On-the-Job Training, and/or post-secondary training; and retention services) for economically disadvantaged (low-income) individuals residing in Muscogee County (for a total amount of \$995,503 or otherwise awarded Council approved the subrecipient agreements for Occupational Training on August 27, 2024. Request is made for the subaward periods of performance, budget periods, and expenditure reporting periods end date listed in Article II General Award Information; Sec. 15.1 Article XV Term; and Exhibit D Expenditure Reporting Schedule to be extended to September 30, 2026.
INITIATED BY:	Job Training Division

Recommendation: Approval is requested to amend the subrecipient agreements for Occupational Training (Internships, Work Experience, On-the-Job Training, and/or post-secondary training; and retention services) for economically disadvantaged (low-income) individuals residing in Muscogee County (for a total amount of \$995,503 or otherwise awarded. Council approved the subrecipient agreements for Occupational Training on August 27, 2024. Request is made for the subaward periods of performance, budget periods, and expenditure reporting periods end date listed in Article II General Award Information; Sec. 15.1 Article XV Term; and Exhibit D Expenditure Reporting Schedule to be extended to September 30, 2026.

Background: The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) of 2021 was signed into law on March 11, 2021. The act funded \$1.9 trillion for economic relief from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding was provided directly to states and local governments. CCG was allocated \$78.4 million in direct funding to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and its negative economic impacts. Columbus' poverty rate has been at a level almost 50% higher than the Georgia Poverty Rate and almost 100% higher than the United States Poverty Rate. Job Training Division, therefore, proposes to drive down these statistics by providing occupational skills training through internships, work experience, on-the-job training, and/or post-secondary education and retention services for those hit hardest with economic disadvantages in Muscogee County.

Analysis: Extending the end date to September 30, 2026, will allow for a continued effort to provide opportunities to strengthen self-sufficiency amongst lower-income members of the community through training, certifications, and permanent employment, thus improving economic growth and aiding in the reduction of Muscogee County's poverty levels.

Financial Considerations: The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) grant funding remains the same. The net effect is zero.

Legal Considerations: A resolution from the City Council authorizing the mayor to execute amendments to contracts/documentation the proposed occupational skills training services through September 30, 2026.

Recommendation/Action: Approval is requested to amend the subrecipient agreements for Occupational Training (Internships, Work Experience, On-the-Job Training, and/or post-secondary training; and retention services) for economically disadvantaged (low-income) individuals residing in Muscogee County (for a total amount of \$995,503 or otherwise awarded. Council approved the subrecipient agreements for Occupational Training on August 27, 2024. Request is made for the subaward periods of performance, budget periods, and expenditure reporting periods end date listed in Article II General Award Information; Sec. 15.1 Article XV Term; and Exhibit D Expenditure Reporting Schedule to be extended to September 30, 2026.

Item #2.

**A RESOLUTION
NO.**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AMENDMENTS TO CONTRACTS/DOCUMENTATION TO CONTINUE OCCUPATIONAL TRAINING AND RETENTION SERVICES FOR ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED (LOW-INCOME) INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN MUSCOGEE COUNTY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2026, TO ADDRESS THE POVERTY LEVEL IN MUSCOGEE COUNTY.

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) was signed into law on March 11, 2021, which provided Fiscal Recovery Funds to both State and local governments; and,

WHEREAS CCG was allocated \$78.4 million in direct funding to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and its negative economic impacts; and,

Item #2.

WHEREAS, Columbus' poverty rate has been at a level almost 50% higher than the State of Georgia and almost 100% higher than the United States; and,

WHEREAS, Occupational Skills Training and Retention Services are an effort to strengthen economic self-sufficiency by obtaining good jobs that provide family-sustaining income (wages) and benefits, uplifting and fostering supportive work environments, and improving economic growth as well as aiding in the reduction of poverty in Muscogee County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, AS FOLLOWS:

We hereby authorize the mayor to execute amendments to contract(s)/documentation to continue occupational training and retention services for economically disadvantaged (low-income) individuals residing in Muscogee County through September 30, 2026, to address the poverty level in Muscogee County.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held on the _____ day of _____ 2025 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Anker voting	_____.
Councilor Chambers voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Mayor

Service Provider – Partnership In Caring

- Years of Service to the community – 33
- Minority and women-owned business
- Service Activities and Description: Occupational Skills training (Internship & Retention services) for eligible youth (ages 18 to 24)
- Proposed Performance Outcomes:
 1. Solicit internship sites of local businesses (employers) in the Muscogee County area who have legitimate vacancies in in-demand occupations, who agree to utilize the position vacancy as an internship (work experience) position to supervise and train eligible participants in the position with the outcome of permanent placement with full benefits available as outlined in employer's company policy on the employer's payroll upon completion of internship training activities
 2. Provide eligible out-of-school youth with unsubsidized employment in accordance with the negotiated performance at the completion of the agreed upon internship activities as well as retention services to all eligible youth retained in unsubsidized employment and provide those not employed with job search/placement opportunities during a follow-up period that will result in a positive employment outcome.

Proposed
ARP grant
budgeted
funds:

\$154,000

FY24/PY23 – PY25/PY24 DETAILED LINE ITEM BUDGET**PARTNERSHIP IN CARING: Youth Internship Work Experience and Retention**

EXPENSES	FY24/FY25 TOTALS
1. Staff Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$107,788.00
2. Staff Travel	\$3,916.00
3. Communications	\$3,050.00
4. Facilities	\$8,400.00
5. Insurance Costs	\$827.00
6. Taxes (Fed/GA Unemployment)	\$2,150.00
7. Operating Supplies	\$2,740.00
8. Registrant Cost (D-Screen/Background Ck/Uniforms/Tools/Supplies/Buss Pass)	\$18,239.00
9. Audit Costs	\$4,175.00
10. Equipment Costs	\$2,715.00
Grand Total:	\$154,000.00
Total Expended:	\$154,000.00
Remaining Balance:	\$0.00

Service Provider – Georgia Job T.I.P.S. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Years of Service to the community – 25 ➤ Minority and woman owned business ➤ Service Activities and Description: Occupational Skills Training (Workforce Reintegration – Work Experience or On-the-Job Training & Retention Services) for eligible adults (ages 22 years and up) and dislocated workers ➤ Proposed Performance Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide participants comprised of Adults and Dislocated Workers of eligible local workforce area residents, active eligible participants. 2. Provide work preparation activities and/or transitional services as needed for participants placed in work experience that will assist the participants assigned to attain and retain successful unsubsidized employment. 3. Transitional services or work preparation activities include review of basic computer skills, resume writing, career counseling, interviewing skills, and/or other services assessed as appropriate by the contractor. 	Proposed ARP grant budgeted funds: \$220,533.80																												
<p style="text-align: center;">FY24/PY23 – PY25/PY24 DETAILED LINE ITEM BUDGET</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GEORGIA Job T.I.P.S.: Reintegrative Work Experience & Placement Services</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">EXPENSES</th><th style="text-align: center;">FY24/FY25 TOTALS</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Staff Salaries and Fringe Benefits</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$95,075.80</td></tr> <tr> <td>2. Staff Travel</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$11,600.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>3. Communications</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$4,485.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>4. Facilities</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$23,988.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>5. Insurance Costs</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$1,050.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>6. Taxes (Fed/GA Unemployment)</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$1,020.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>7. Operating Supplies</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$8,355.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>8. Registrant Cost (D-Screen/Background Ck/Uniforms/Employer Reimbursement)</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$62,720.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>9. Audit Costs</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$2,400.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>10. Equipment Costs</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$9,840.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Grand Total:</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$220,533.80</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Expended:</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$114,854.16</td></tr> <tr> <td>Remaining Balance:</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$105,679.64</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		EXPENSES	FY24/FY25 TOTALS	1. Staff Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$95,075.80	2. Staff Travel	\$11,600.00	3. Communications	\$4,485.00	4. Facilities	\$23,988.00	5. Insurance Costs	\$1,050.00	6. Taxes (Fed/GA Unemployment)	\$1,020.00	7. Operating Supplies	\$8,355.00	8. Registrant Cost (D-Screen/Background Ck/Uniforms/Employer Reimbursement)	\$62,720.00	9. Audit Costs	\$2,400.00	10. Equipment Costs	\$9,840.00	Grand Total:	\$220,533.80	Total Expended:	\$114,854.16	Remaining Balance:	\$105,679.64
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Service Provider – Columbus Technical College

- Years of Service to the community through the Job Training Division – 20
- Service Activities and Description: Post-Secondary Education/Occupational Skills Training for eligible Adults, Dislocated Workers, and Older Youth
- Proposed Performance Outcomes:
 1. Recruit and provide financial assistance and case management services to eligible Adults, ages 22 and older, Dislocated Workers, and Older Youth, ages 18-24, who need assistance to enter, matriculate through, and/or complete occupational skills training or transition into employment, as well as provide job search/job placement services, follow-up services, and supportive services.

Proposed ARP grant budgeted funds:

\$462,000

FY24/PY23 – PY25/PY24 DETAILED LINE ITEM BUDGET**COLUMBUS TECHNICAL COLLEGE: Post-Secondary/Occupational CRT/Case Management**

EXPENSES	FY24/FY25 TOTALS
1. Staff Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$235,277.00
2. Staff Travel	\$5,256.00
3. Communications	\$0.00
4. Facilities	\$0.00
5. Insurance Costs	\$0.00
6. Taxes (Fed/GA Unemployment)	\$0.00
7. Operating Supplies	\$3,702.00
8. Registrant Cost (Tuition/Books/Supplies/Uniforms/Exam Fees)	\$180,537.00
9. Equipment Costs	\$3,550.00
10. Indirect Costs	\$33,678.00
Grand Total:	\$462,000.00
Total Expended:	\$359,707.00
Remaining Balance:	\$102,293.00

Service Provider – IN THE DOOR, LLC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Years of Service to the community through the Job Training Division – 4.5 ➤ Minority owned business ➤ Service Activities and Description: Work Readiness Training and On-the Job Training for eligible youth (ages 18-24) ➤ Proposed Performance Outcomes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sequentially integrate Work Readiness Skills Training with On-the Job Training for eligible youth (18-24) participating in the training provided. 2. Provide training that prepares youth for successful job retention outcomes. 3. All youth in need of employability skills training receive instruction from a practice-based curriculum, student support services, and commitment to measuring results during and through the end of program and follow-up services. 4. Participants will receive training to include, but not limited to customer service, soft skills, verbal and written communication workshops, occupations skills training, conflict resolution and problem-solving workshops, career pathway training, resume creation/update, interview preparation and appropriate workplace attire workshops, tutoring and study skills development, job shadowing, and mentoring. 	Proposed ARP grant budgeted funds: \$110,000																												
<p style="text-align: center;">FY24/PY23 DETAILED LINE ITEM BUDGET</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN THE DOOR, LLC: Out-of-School Youth Combined Work Readiness & OJT</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">EXPENSES</th><th style="text-align: center;">FY24/FY25 TOTALS</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Staff Salaries and Fringe Benefits</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$90,630.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>2. Staff Travel</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$1,450.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>3. Communications</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$675.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>4. Facilities</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$2,640.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>5. Insurance Costs</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$390.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>6. Taxes (Fed/GA Unemployment)</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$416.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>7. Operating Supplies</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$2,700.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>8. Registrant Cost (Transportation Bus Pass/Uniforms/Tools/ZOOM Account)</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$8,981.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>9. Audit Costs</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$1,118.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>10. Equipment Costs</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$1,000.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Grand Total:</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$110,000.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Expended:</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$3,808.54</td></tr> <tr> <td>Remaining Balance:</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$96,191.46</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		EXPENSES	FY24/FY25 TOTALS	1. Staff Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$90,630.00	2. Staff Travel	\$1,450.00	3. Communications	\$675.00	4. Facilities	\$2,640.00	5. Insurance Costs	\$390.00	6. Taxes (Fed/GA Unemployment)	\$416.00	7. Operating Supplies	\$2,700.00	8. Registrant Cost (Transportation Bus Pass/Uniforms/Tools/ZOOM Account)	\$8,981.00	9. Audit Costs	\$1,118.00	10. Equipment Costs	\$1,000.00	Grand Total:	\$110,000.00	Total Expended:	\$3,808.54	Remaining Balance:	\$96,191.46
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Service Provider – Georgia Driving Academy <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Years if /service to the community through the Job Training Division – 30 years➤ Service Activities and Description: Training the men and women of Muscogee County with hands-on Class-A training for in-demand careers in the transportation industry.➤ Proposed Performance Outcomes:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Produce safety-conscious drivers in the trucking industry able to utilize a balance of classroom instruction and hands-on and behind-the-wheel training.2. Prepare eligible students to pass both the DMV written and CDL exam and skills test to acquire a Class A license.		Proposed ARP grant budgeted funds: \$48,970										
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RESOLUTIONNO. 344-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT(S)/DOCUMENTATION TO IMPLEMENT OCCUPATIONAL TRAINING AND RETENTION SERVICES FOR ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED (LOW-INCOME) INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN MUSCOGEE COUNTY IN THE GRAND TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$995,503.80 OR OTHERWISE AWARDED TO ADDRESS THE POVERTY LEVEL IN MUSCOGEE COUNTY.

WHEREAS, The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) was signed into law on March 11, 2021 which provided Fiscal Recovery Funds to both State and local governments; and,

WHEREAS, Columbus Consolidated Government was allocated \$78.4 million in direct funding to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and its negative economic impacts; and,

WHEREAS, Columbus' poverty rate has been at a level almost 50% higher than the State of Georgia and almost 100% higher than the United States; and,

WHEREAS, Occupational Skills Training and Retention Services are an effort to strengthen economic self-sufficiency by obtaining good jobs that provide family sustaining income (wages) and benefits uplifting and fostering supportive work environments and improving economic growth as well as aiding in the reduction of poverty in Muscogee County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, AS FOLLOWS:

We hereby authorize the city manager to execute contract(s)/documentation to implement occupational/educational training and retention services for economically disadvantaged (low income) individuals residing in Muscogee County in the grand total amount of \$995,503.80 or otherwise awarded to address the poverty level in Muscogee County.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the 27th day of August 2024 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ten members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting <u>YES</u>
Councilor Chambers	voting <u>YES</u>
Councilor Cogle	voting <u>YES</u>
Councilor Crabb	voting <u>YES</u>
Councilor Davis	voting <u>YES</u>

Resolution No. 344-24

Councilor Garrett	voting	___YES___
Councilor Hickey	voting	___YES___
Councilor Huff	voting	___YES___
Councilor Thomas	voting	___YES___
Councilor Tucker	voting	___YES___



Sandra T. Davis
Clerk of Council



B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III
Mayor

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO: Mayor and Councilors

AGENDA SUBJECT: **Subrecipient Agreements for Occupational Training and Retention Services**

AGENDA SUMMARY: Approval is requested to execute subrecipient agreements with Partnership In Caring for Occupational Training, Internships and Retention Services with eligible youth, ages 18 to 24; Georgia Job T.I.P.S. for Workforce Reintegration, On-the-job training, and Retention Services with Adults, ages 22 and older; Columbus Technical College for Post-Secondary Education and Occupational Skills training with Adult, Dislocated Workers, and Youth; Georgia Driving Academy for eligible individuals interested in Commercial Driver's Training for Class A drivers licenses; and In The Door, LLC, for Work Readiness and On-the-job training with youth, ages 18 to 24, that are economically disadvantaged individuals residing in Muscogee County for a total of \$995,503.80 to combat generational poverty and its effects on the community by providing sustainable employment, career and technical education, training, and support services needed to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers to drive our economy forward.

INITIATED BY: **Job Training Division**

Recommendation: Approval is requested to execute subrecipient agreements with Partnership In Caring for Occupational Training, Internships and Retention Services with eligible youth, ages 18 to 24; Georgia Job T.I.P.S. for Workforce Reintegration, On-the-job training, and Retention Services with Adults, ages 22 and older; Columbus Technical College for Post-Secondary Education and Occupational Skills training with Adult, Dislocated Workers, and Youth; Georgia Driving Academy for eligible individuals interested in Commercial Driver's Training for Class A driver's licenses; and In The Door, LLC, for Work Readiness and On-the-job training with youth, ages 18 to 24, that are economically disadvantaged individuals residing in Muscogee County for a total of \$995,503.80 to combat generational poverty and its effect on the community by providing sustainable employment, career and technical education, training, and support services needed to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers to drive our economy forward.

Background: The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) of 2021 was signed into law on March 11, 2021. This historic legislation was designed to enable all Americans to respond to and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. The plan included emergency funding known as the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. CCG was allocated \$78.4 million in direct funding to respond to the public health emergency and its negative economic impact. Columbus' poverty rate has been at a level almost 50% higher than the Georgia Poverty Rate and almost 100% higher than

the United States Poverty Rate. The Job Training Division, in partnership with their contractual partners, intends to administer funds specifically through services geared toward assisting disadvantaged citizens who need training to enter or re-enter the labor market and obtain meaningful employment, internships, on-the-job training, career and technical education, and retention services.

Analysis: The occupational training services funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) grant will help qualified participants access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and match employers with the skilled workers while reducing poverty and enhancing their quality of life.

Financial Considerations: The Job Training Division is requesting to be awarded \$995,503.80 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) grant to assist in the continued facilitation of Occupational Training (Internships, Retention Services, Workforce reintegration, On-the-job training, Career and Technical education, and Support services) through existing contractual partners to combat generational poverty and its effect on the community.

Legal Considerations: A resolution from the City Council authorizing the City Manager to execute contract(s)/documentation to implement the proposed occupational and educational skills training services.

Recommendation/Action: Authorize a resolution for approval to execute subrecipient agreements to provide Occupational Training (Internships, Retention Services, Workforce reintegration, On-the-Job training, Career and Technical education and Support services) for economically disadvantaged (low-income) individuals in the amount of \$995,503.80, with the Job Training Division as acting administrator.

Service Provider – Partnership In Caring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Years of Service to the community – 33 ➤ Minority and woman owned business ➤ Service Activities and Description: Occupational Skills training (Internship & Retention services) for eligible youth (ages 18 to 24) ➤ Proposed Performance Outcomes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Solicit internship sites of local businesses (employers) in the Muscogee County area who have legitimate vacancies in in-demand occupations, who agree to utilize the position vacancy as an internship (work experience) position to supervise and train eligible participants in the position with the outcome of permanent placement with full benefits available as outlined in employer's company policy on the employer's payroll upon completion of internship training activities 2. Provide eligible out-of-school youth with unsubsidized employment in accordance with the negotiated performance at the completion of the agreed upon internship activities as well as retention services to all eligible youth retained in unsubsidized employment and provide those not employed with job search/placement opportunities during a follow-up period that will result in a positive employment outcome. 	Proposed ARP grant budgeted funds: \$154,000																								
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Service Provider – Georgia Job T.I.P.S. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Years of Service to the community – 25 ➤ Minority and woman owned business ➤ Service Activities and Description: Occupational Skills Training (Workforce Reintegration – Work Experience or On-the-Job Training & Retention Services) for eligible adults (ages 22 years and up) and dislocated workers ➤ Proposed Performance Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide participants comprised of Adults and Dislocated Workers of eligible local workforce area residents, active eligible participants. 2. Provide work preparation activities and/or transitional services as needed for participants placed in work experience that will assist the participants assigned to attain and retain successful unsubsidized employment. 3. Transitional services or work preparation activities include review of basic computer skills, resume writing, career counseling, interviewing skills, and/or other services assessed as appropriate by the contractor. 	Proposed ARP grant budgeted funds: \$220,533.80																										
<p style="text-align: center;">FY24/PY23 – PY25/PY24 DETAILED LINE ITEM BUDGET</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GEORGIA Job T.I.P.S.: Reintegrative Work Experience & Placement Services</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">EXPENSES</th><th style="text-align: center;">FY24/FY25 TOTALS</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Staff Salaries and Fringe Benefits</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$95,075.80</td></tr> <tr> <td>2. Staff Travel</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$11,600.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>3. Communications</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$4,485.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>4. Facilities</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$23,988.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>5. Insurance Costs</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$1,050.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>6. Taxes (Fed/GA Unemployment)</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$1,020.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>7. Operating Supplies</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$8,355.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>8. Registrant Cost (D-Screen/Background Ck/Uniforms/Employer Reimbursement)</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$62,720.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>9. Audit Costs</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$2,400.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>10. Equipment Costs</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$9,840.00</td></tr> <tr> <td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr> <td>Grand Total:</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$220,533.80</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		EXPENSES	FY24/FY25 TOTALS	1. Staff Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$95,075.80	2. Staff Travel	\$11,600.00	3. Communications	\$4,485.00	4. Facilities	\$23,988.00	5. Insurance Costs	\$1,050.00	6. Taxes (Fed/GA Unemployment)	\$1,020.00	7. Operating Supplies	\$8,355.00	8. Registrant Cost (D-Screen/Background Ck/Uniforms/Employer Reimbursement)	\$62,720.00	9. Audit Costs	\$2,400.00	10. Equipment Costs	\$9,840.00			Grand Total:	\$220,533.80
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Service Provider – Columbus Technical College <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Years of Service to the community through the Job Training Division – 20 ➤ Service Activities and Description: Post-Secondary Education/Occupational Skills Training for eligible Adults, Dislocated Workers, and Older Youth ➤ Proposed Performance Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruit and provide financial assistance and case management services to eligible Adults, ages 22 and older, Dislocated Workers, and Older Youth, ages 18-24, who need assistance to enter, matriculate through, and/or complete occupational skills training or transition into employment, as well as provide job search/job placement services, follow-up services, and supportive services. 	Proposed ARP grant budgeted funds: \$462,000																														
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Service Provider – IN THE DOOR, LLC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Years of Service to the community through the Job Training Division – 4.5 ➤ Minority owned business 	Proposed ARP grant
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<p>➤ Service Activities and Description: Work Readiness Training and On-the Job Training for eligible youth (ages 18-24)</p> <p>➤ Proposed Performance Outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sequentially integrate Work Readiness Skills Training with On-the Job Training for eligible youth (18-24) participating in the training provided. 2. Provide training that prepares youth for successful job retention outcomes. 3. All youth in need of employability skills training receive instruction from a practice-based curriculum, student support services, and commitment to measuring results during and through the end of program and follow-up services. 4. Participants will receive training to include, but not limited to customer service, soft skills, verbal and written communication workshops, occupations skills training, conflict resolution and problem-solving workshops, career pathway training, resume creation/update, interview preparation and appropriate workplace attire workshops, tutoring and study skills development, job shadowing, and mentoring. 	<p>budgeted funds:</p> <p>\$110,000</p>																								
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<p>Service Provider – Georgia Driving Academy</p> <p>➤ Years if /service to the community through the Job Training Division – 30 years</p>	<p>Proposed ARP grant</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Service Activities and Description: Training the men and women of Muscogee County with hands-on Class-A training for in-demand careers in the transportation industry. ➤ Proposed Performance Outcomes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce safety-conscious drivers in the trucking industry able to utilize a balance of classroom instruction and hands-on and behind-the-wheel training. 2. Prepare eligible students to pass both the DMV written and CDL exam and skills test to acquire a Class A license. 		budgeted funds: \$48,970
	EXPENSES	FY24/FY25 TOTALS
	1. Tuition and exam fees for commercial driver's training for Class A Driver's License for eligible students	\$48,970.00

Proposed ARP Grant Total Budgeted for Service Provider's

Partnership In Caring	\$154,000.00
Georgia Job T.I.P.S.	\$220,533.80
Columbus Technical College	\$462,000.00
IN THE DOOR, LLC	\$110,000.00
Ga Driving Academy	<u>\$48,970.00</u>

TOTAL Proposed amount requested:
\$995,503.80

File Attachments for Item:

A. Election Equipment, Supplies and Services

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Election Equipment, Supplies and Services
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council approve a resolution to expend the appropriated funds to Knowink, LLC (St Louis, MO), for the provision of election equipment, supplies and services for the estimated amount of \$150,000 per year. The funds expended each fiscal year is contingent upon the number of elections required to be held.

In 2001, the State of Georgia mandated a uniform voting system for all counties in the state. The requirement for uniformity is still in effect. Dominion Voting Systems, Inc., was the successful vendor awarded the contract, per the State of Georgia, RFP No. 47800-SOS0000037, released March 16, 2019. to provide maintenance and support services for the election management software and equipment. Knowink partnered with Dominion Voting Systems to provide Voting Equipment, Poll Pads, as well as, printing and mail processing for precinct cards.

Knowink, partnering with Dominion Voting Systems, Inc., is contracted to provide the uniform voting system for the State of Georgia. Therefore, the vendor is considered the only known source.

Funds are budgeted each fiscal year for this on-going expense: General Fund – Boards & Commissions – Elections & Registration – Boards of Elections & Registration – Election Expenses; 0101 – 290 – 2000 -ELCT - 6355.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TO EXPEND THE APPROPRIATED FUNDS TO KNOWINK, LLC (ST LOUIS, MO), FOR THE PROVISION OF ELECTION EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND SERVICES FOR THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$150,000 PER YEAR. THE FUNDS EXPENDED EACH FISCAL YEAR IS CONTINGENT UPON THE NUMBER OF ELECTIONS REQUIRED TO BE HELD.

WHEREAS, in 2001, the State of Georgia mandated a uniform voting system for all counties in the state. The requirement for uniformity is still in effect. Dominion Voting Systems, Inc., was the successful vendor awarded the contract, per the State of Georgia, RFP No. 47800-SOS0000037, released March 16, 2019. to provide maintenance and support services for the election management software and equipment; and,

WEHREAS, Knowink partnered with Dominion Voting Systems to provide Voting Equipment, Poll Pads, as well as, printing and mail processing for precinct cards; and,

WHEREAS, Knowink, partnering with Dominion Voting Systems, Inc., is contracted to provide the uniform voting system for the State of Georgia. Therefore, the vendor is considered the only known source.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

That the Mayor and/or his designee is hereby authorized to expend the appropriated funds to Knowink, LLC (St Louis, MO), for the provision of election equipment, supplies and services for the estimated amount of \$150,000 per year. The funds expended each fiscal year is contingent upon the number of elections required to be held. Funds are budgeted each fiscal year for this on-going expense: General Fund – Boards & Commissions – Elections & Registration – Boards of Elections & Registration – Election Expenses; 0101 – 290 – 2000 – ELCT - 6355.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the ____ day of _____, 2025 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Anker	voting _____
Councilor Chambers	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Hickey	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____

Councilor Tucker voting _____

Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor

File Attachments for Item:

B. Household Trash Carts and Lids for Public Works – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Household Trash Carts and Lids for Public Works – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council approve the purchase of household trash carts, lids, plus shipping, from Rehrig Pacific Company (Lawrenceville, GA) in the total amount of \$132,654.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #120324-REH. The specific items to be purchased include the following:

Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost
95 Gallon Black Carts	1,404	55.00	\$ 77,220.00
95 Gallon Brown Carts	702	55.00	38,610.00
95 Gallon Green Cart Lids	702	20.00	14,040.00
Equipment Cost			129,870.00
Shipping Cost			2,784.00
Total Cost			\$ 132,654.00

The black carts will be distributed to the citizens of Muscogee County for household trash pick-up for new residents on the waiting list. The black carts are also needed to replace damaged or stolen carts. This is new equipment.

The brown carts are distributed to citizens of Muscogee County when additional trash carts are needed by a household. The brown carts are also needed to replace damaged or stolen carts. This is new equipment.

The green cart lids are needed to replace lids on yard waste carts that have broken. This is new equipment

The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Request for Proposal (RFP) #120324-REH, initiated by Sourcewell, whereby Rehrig Pacific Company, Inc. was one of the successful vendors contracted to provide Plastic Refuse and Recycling Containers with Related Technology Solutions. The contract, which commenced April 23, 2025, is good through April 4, 2029. The contract available under Sourcewell has been awarded by virtue of a public competitive procurement process compliant with State and Federal statutes. Sourcewell is a State of Minnesota local government agency and service cooperative created under the laws of the State of Minnesota (Minnesota Statutes Section 123A.21) that offers cooperative procurement solutions to government entities. Participation is open to federal, state/province, and municipal governmental entities, higher education, K-12 education, nonprofit, tribal government, and other public entities located in the United States and Canada. The RFP process utilized by Sourcewell meets the

requirements of the City's Procurement Ordinance; additionally, the City's Procurement Ordinance, Article 9-101, authorizes the use of cooperative purchasing.

Funds are available in the FY26 Budget as follows:

Funding in the amount of \$118,614.00 is available in the Integrated Waste Management Fund – Public Works – Solid Waste Collection – Operating Materials; 0207 – 260 – 3510 – GARB – 6728.

Funding in the amount of \$14,040.00 is available in the Integrated Waste Management Fund – Public Works – Yard Waste Collection – Contractual Services; 0207 – 3580 – YARD – 6319.

A RESOLUTION**NO.** _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF HOUSEHOLD TRASH CARTS, LIDS, PLUS SHIPPING, FROM REHRIG PACIFIC COMPANY (LAWRENCEVILLE, GA) IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$132,654.00. THE PURCHASE WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY COOPERATIVE PURCHASE VIA SOURCEWELL CONTRACT #120324-REH. THE SPECIFIC ITEMS TO BE PURCHASED INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	TOTAL COST
95 GALLON BLACK CARTS	1,404	55.00	\$ 77,220.00
95 GALLON BROWN CARTS	702	55.00	38,610.00
95 GALLON GREEN CART LIDS	702	20.00	14,040.00
EQUIPMENT COST			129,870.00
SHIPPING COST			2,784.00
TOTAL COST			\$ 132,654.00

WHEREAS, the black carts will be distributed to the citizens of Muscogee County for household trash pick-up for new residents on the waiting list. The black carts are also needed to replace damaged or stolen carts. This is new equipment; and,

WHEREAS, the brown carts are distributed to citizens of Muscogee County when additional trash carts are needed by a household. The brown carts are also needed to replace damaged or stolen carts. This is new equipment; and,

WHEREAS, the green cart lids are needed to replace lids on yard waste carts that have broken. This is new equipment; and,

WHEREAS, the purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Request for Proposal (RFP) #120324-REH, initiated by Sourcewell, whereby Rehrig Pacific Company, Inc. was one of the successful vendors contracted to provide Plastic Refuse and Recycling Containers with Related Technology Solutions. The contract, which commenced April 23, 2025, is good through April 4, 2029. The contract awarded under Sourcewell has been awarded by virtue of a public competitive procurement process compliant with State and Federal statutes. Sourcewell is a State of Minnesota local government agency and service cooperative created under the laws of the State of Minnesota (Minnesota Statutes Section 123A.21) that offers cooperative procurement solutions to government entities. Participation is open to federal, state/province, and municipal governmental entities, higher education, K-12 education, nonprofit, tribal government, and other public entities located in the United States and Canada. The RFP process utilized by Sourcewell meets the requirements of the City's Procurement Ordinance; additionally, the City's Procurement Ordinance, Article 9-101, authorizes the use of cooperative purchasing.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

That the Mayor and/or his designee is hereby authorized to purchase household trash carts, lids, plus shipping, from Rehrig Pacific Company (Lawrenceville, GA) in the total amount

of \$132,654.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #120324-REH. The specific items to be purchased include the following:

Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost
95 Gallon Black Carts	1,404	55.00	\$ 77,220.00
95 Gallon Brown Carts	702	55.00	38,610.00
95 Gallon Green Cart Lids	702	20.00	14,040.00
Equipment Cost			129,870.00
Shipping Cost			2,784.00
Total Cost			\$ 132,654.00

Funds are available in the FY26 Budget as follows:

Funding in the amount of \$118,614.00 is available in the Integrated Waste Management Fund – Public Works – Solid Waste Collection – Operating Materials; 0207 – 260 – 3510 – GARB – 6728.

Funding in the amount of \$14,040.00 is available in the Integrated Waste Management Fund – Public Works – Yard Waste Collection – Contractual Services; 0207 – 3580 – YARD – 6319.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the ____ day of _____, 2025 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Anker	voting _____
Councilor Chambers	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Hickey	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson III, Mayor

File Attachments for Item:

C. Household Recycling Carts for Public Works – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Household Recycling Carts for Public Works – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council approve the purchase of 95-gallon blue recycling carts from Rehrig Pacific Company (Lawrenceville, GA) in the amount of \$79,140.00 (1,404 units @ \$55.00 each, plus freight in the amount of \$1,920.00). The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #120324-REH.

The blue carts will be distributed to citizens of Muscogee County, who are on a waiting list, for recycling pick-up. The carts will also be used to replace stolen or damaged carts. This is new equipment.

The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Request for Proposal (RFP) #120324-REH, initiated by Sourcewell, whereby Rehrig Pacific Company, Inc. was one of the successful vendors contracted to provide Plastic Refuse and Recycling Containers with Related Technology Solutions. The contract, which commenced April 23, 2025, is good through April 4, 2029. The contract available under Sourcewell has been awarded by virtue of a public competitive procurement process compliant with State and Federal statutes. Sourcewell is a State of Minnesota local government agency and service cooperative created under the laws of the State of Minnesota (Minnesota Statutes Section 123A.21) that offers cooperative procurement solutions to government entities. Participation is open to federal, state/province, and municipal governmental entities, higher education, K-12 education, nonprofit, tribal government, and other public entities located in the United States and Canada. The RFP process utilized by Sourcewell meets the requirements of the City's Procurement Ordinance; additionally, the City's Procurement Ordinance, Article 9-101, authorizes the use of cooperative purchasing.

Funds are available in the FY26 Budget: Integrated Waste Management Fund – Public Works – Recycling – Operating Materials; 0207 – 260 – 3580 – RCYL – 6728.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 95-GALLON BLUE RECYCLING CARTS FROM REHRIG PACIFIC COMPANY (LAWRENCEVILLE, GA) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$79,140.00 (1,404 UNITS @ \$55.00 EACH, PLUS FREIGHT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,920.00). THE PURCHASE WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY COOPERATIVE PURCHASE VIA SOURCEWELL CONTRACT #120324-REH.

WHEREAS, the blue carts will be distributed to citizens of Muscogee County, who are on a waiting list, for recycling pick-up. The carts will also be used to replace stolen or damaged carts. This is new equipment; and,

WHEREAS, the purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Request for Proposal (RFP) #120324-REH, initiated by Sourcewell, whereby Rehrig Pacific Company, Inc. was one of the successful vendors contracted to provide Plastic Refuse and Recycling Containers with Related Technology Solutions. The contract, which commenced April 23, 2025, is good through April 4, 2029. The contract available under Sourcewell has been awarded by virtue of a public competitive procurement process compliant with State and Federal statutes. Sourcewell is a State of Minnesota local government agency and service cooperative created under the laws of the State of Minnesota (Minnesota Statutes Section 123A.21) that offers cooperative procurement solutions to government entities. Participation is open to federal, state/province, and municipal governmental entities, higher education, K-12 education, nonprofit, tribal government, and other public entities located in the United States and Canada. The RFP process utilized by Sourcewell meets the requirements of the City's Procurement Ordinance; additionally, the City's Procurement Ordinance, Article 9-101, authorizes the use of cooperative purchasing.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

That the Mayor and/or his designee is hereby authorized to purchase of 95-gallon blue recycling carts from Rehrig Pacific Company (Lawrenceville, GA) in the amount of \$79,140.00 (1,404 units @ \$55.00 each, plus freight in the amount of \$1,920.00). The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #120324-REH. Funds are available in the FY26 Budget: Integrated Waste Management Fund – Public Works – Recycling – Operating Materials; 0207 – 260 – 3580 – RCYL – 6728.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the ____ day of _____, 2025 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Anker	voting _____
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Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Hickey	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor

File Attachments for Item:

B. Pension Fund Process Update - Angelica Alexander, Director, Finance



Pension Plan Update Presented: July 22, 2025

Pension Plan Facts

Market Value as of Quarter Ending
March 2025: **\$660+ million**

- There are four pension plans:
 - General Government Plan
 - Public Safety Plan
 - Major Disability Plan
 - Death Benefit Plan

Funded Percentage as of 7/1/24:
103% for General Govt. Plan
97% for Public Safety Plan

(Note: Funded percentage is equal to the ratio of the usable portion of the market value of assets divided by the present value of accrued benefits.)



Plan Funding Information

Item #B.

Inflows

- Employee pension deductions & city contributions generates an accounts payable check thru biweekly payroll process
- Component Unit Contributions
- Investment Contributions
- Checks and contributions deposited into separate bank account for pension

Outflows

- Retiree Benefit Payments
- Drop Disbursements
- Non-Vested Employee Refunds
- Retiree Payroll Disbursements i.e. state and federal tax payments, insurance payments

- Page 126 -

Reconciliation

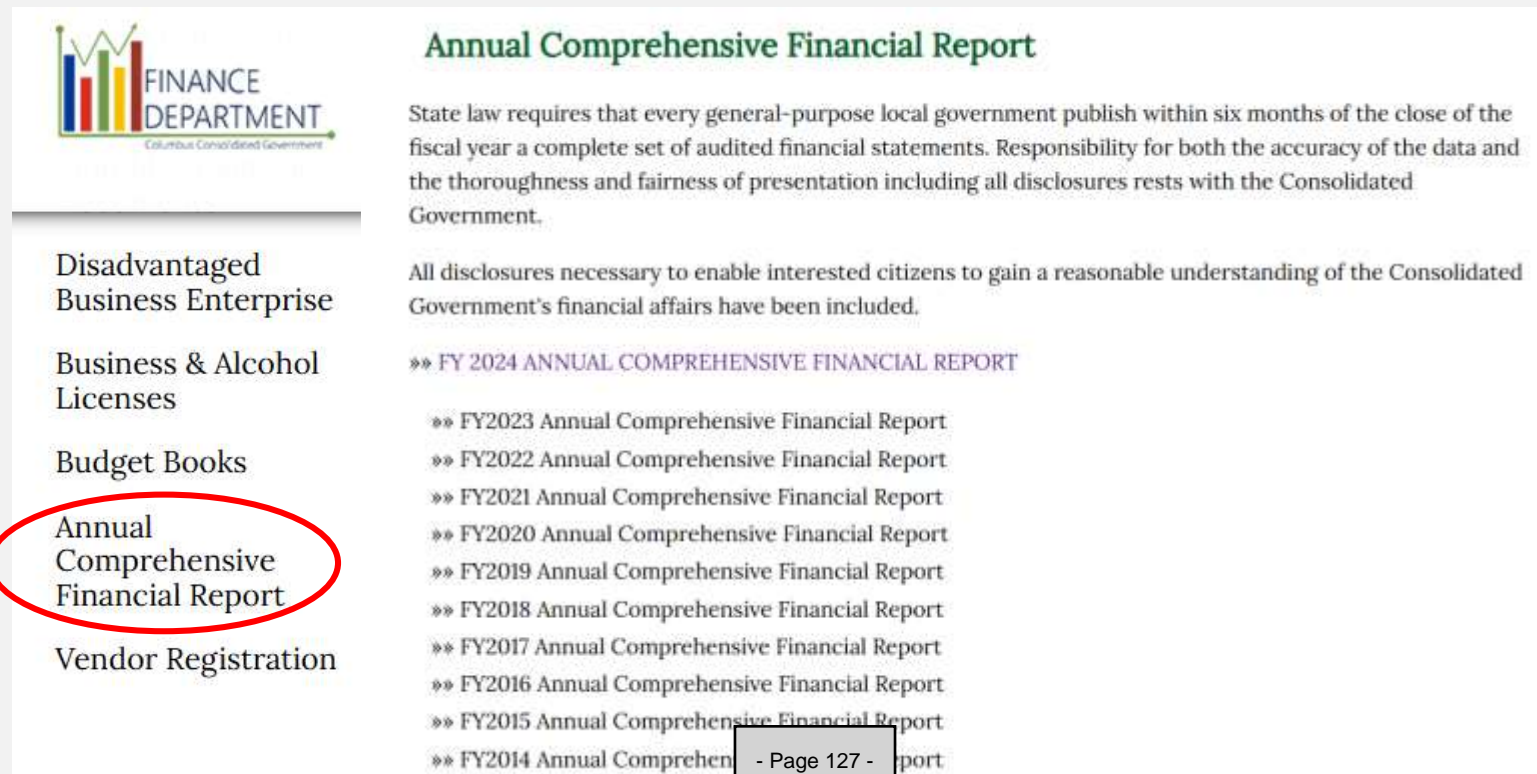
- Inflows and outflows are recorded on the general ledger to the Pension Fund in the financial system
- Pension Fund general ledger entries are reconciled to pension bank account transactions on a monthly basis.

Plan Funding Information, cont'd

Item #B.

- Financial information regarding the pension plan is reported in the ACFR (contains over 30 pages of disclosure information as required by GASB).

<https://www.columbusga.gov/Finance/>



The screenshot shows the Finance Department website for Columbus Consolidated Government. On the left is a navigation menu with links: Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, Business & Alcohol Licenses, Budget Books, Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (circled in red), and Vendor Registration. A large blue arrow points from the bottom left towards the red circle. The main content area is titled 'Annual Comprehensive Financial Report' and contains a paragraph about state law requirements for financial statements, followed by a list of links for annual reports from FY2024 down to FY2014. A footer at the bottom center reads '- Page 127 -'.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
Columbus Consolidated Government

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise

Business & Alcohol Licenses

Budget Books

Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

Vendor Registration

Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

State law requires that every general-purpose local government publish within six months of the close of the fiscal year a complete set of audited financial statements. Responsibility for both the accuracy of the data and the thoroughness and fairness of presentation including all disclosures rests with the Consolidated Government.

All disclosures necessary to enable interested citizens to gain a reasonable understanding of the Consolidated Government's financial affairs have been included.

»» **FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT**

»» FY2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

»» FY2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

»» FY2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

»» FY2020 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

»» FY2019 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

»» FY2018 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

»» FY2017 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

»» FY2016 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

»» FY2015 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

»» FY2014 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

- Page 127 -

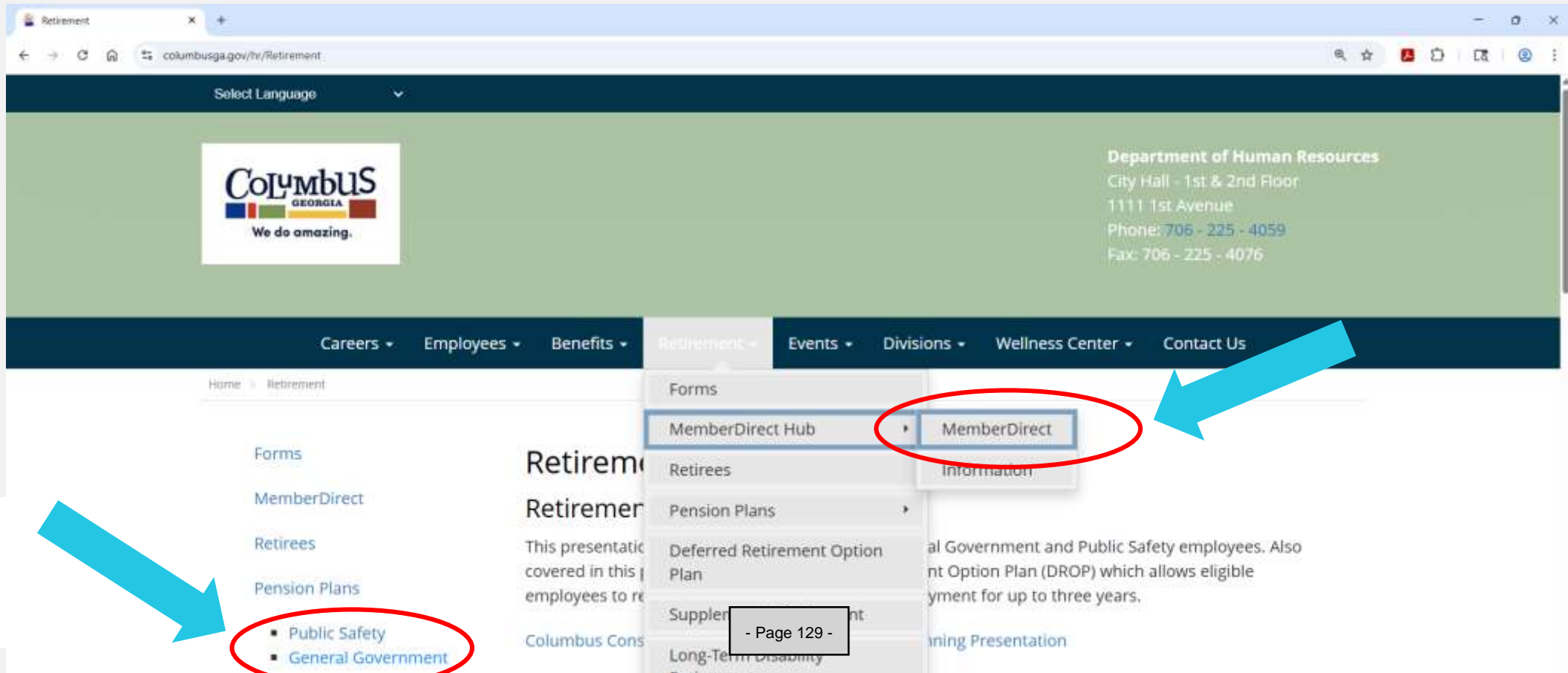
Other Plan Information



- Governmental pension plans are not subject to ERISA (Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974).
- ERISA is a federal law that sets minimum standards for retirement plans in the private sector.
- Some requirements of ERISA:
 - ERISA requires periodic pension benefit statements.
 - ERISA requires summary plan description/plan documents.
 - ERISA requires summary annual report or annual funding notice.

Other Plan Information, cont'd

- Employees can access estimated retirement benefit statements on-line via the MemberDirect Portal or view Plan Documents on the Department of Human Resources' website.





Questions?



File Attachments for Item:

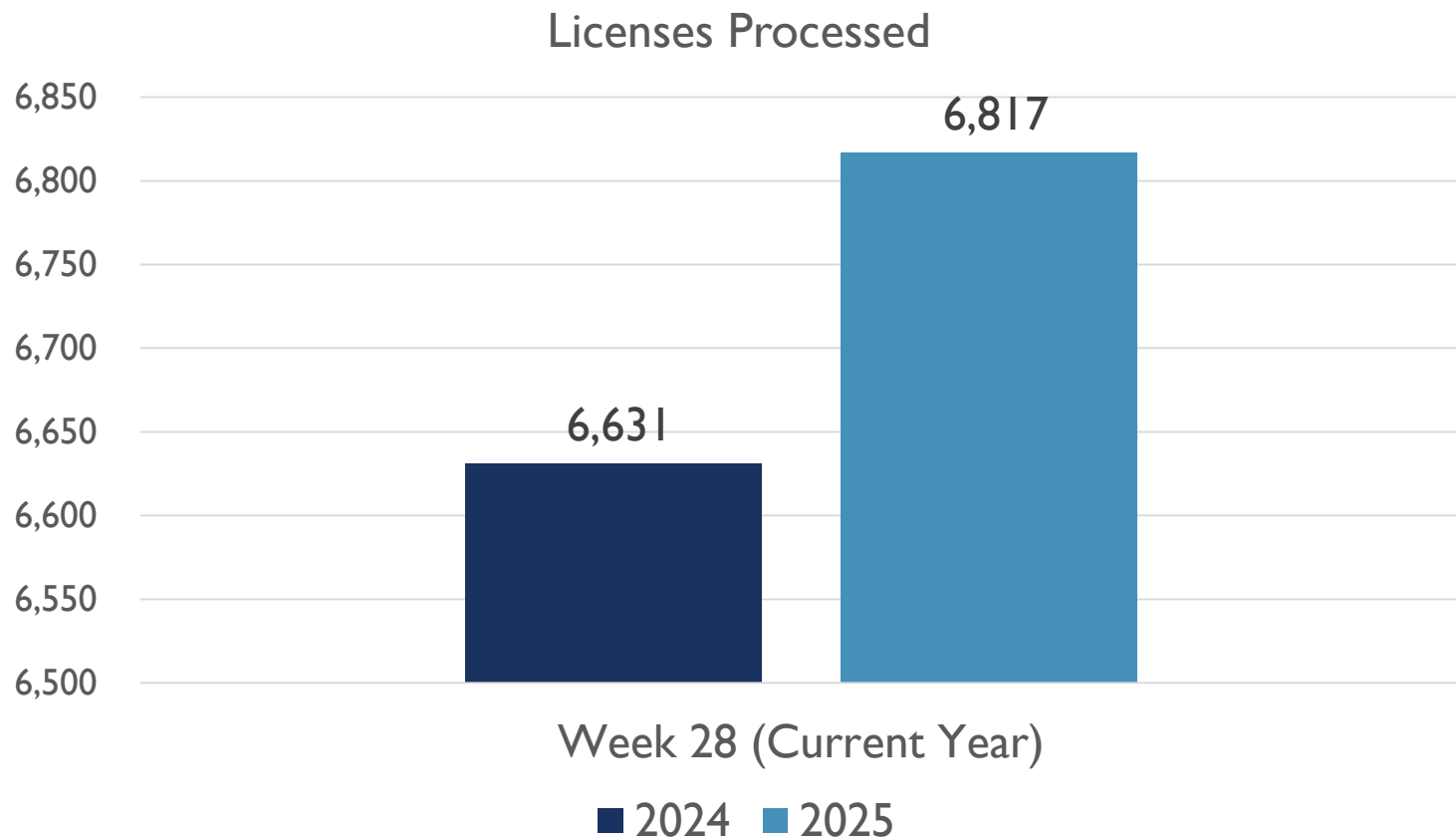
C. Revenue Department Update - Angelica Alexander, Director, Finance

REVENUE DIVISION UPDATE

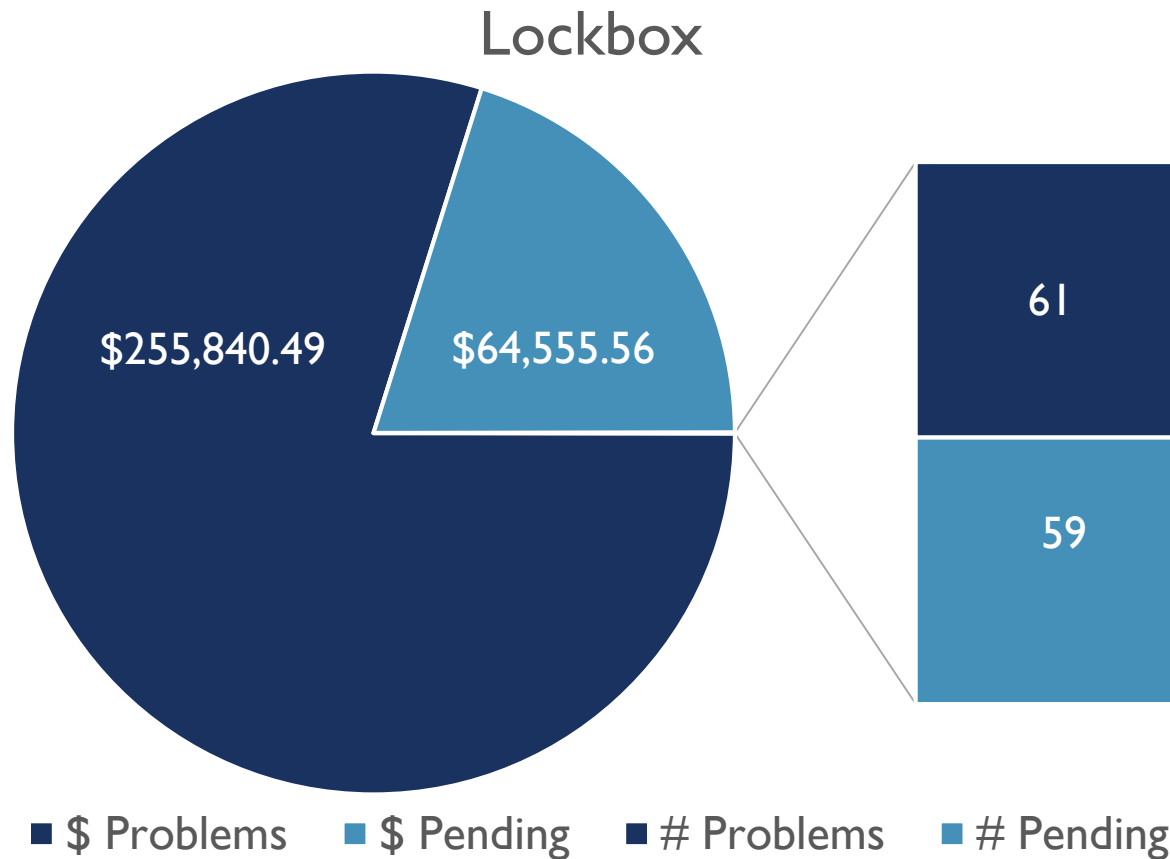
PRESENTED: JULY 22, 2025



2ND QUARTER UPDATE



2ND QUARTER UPDATE



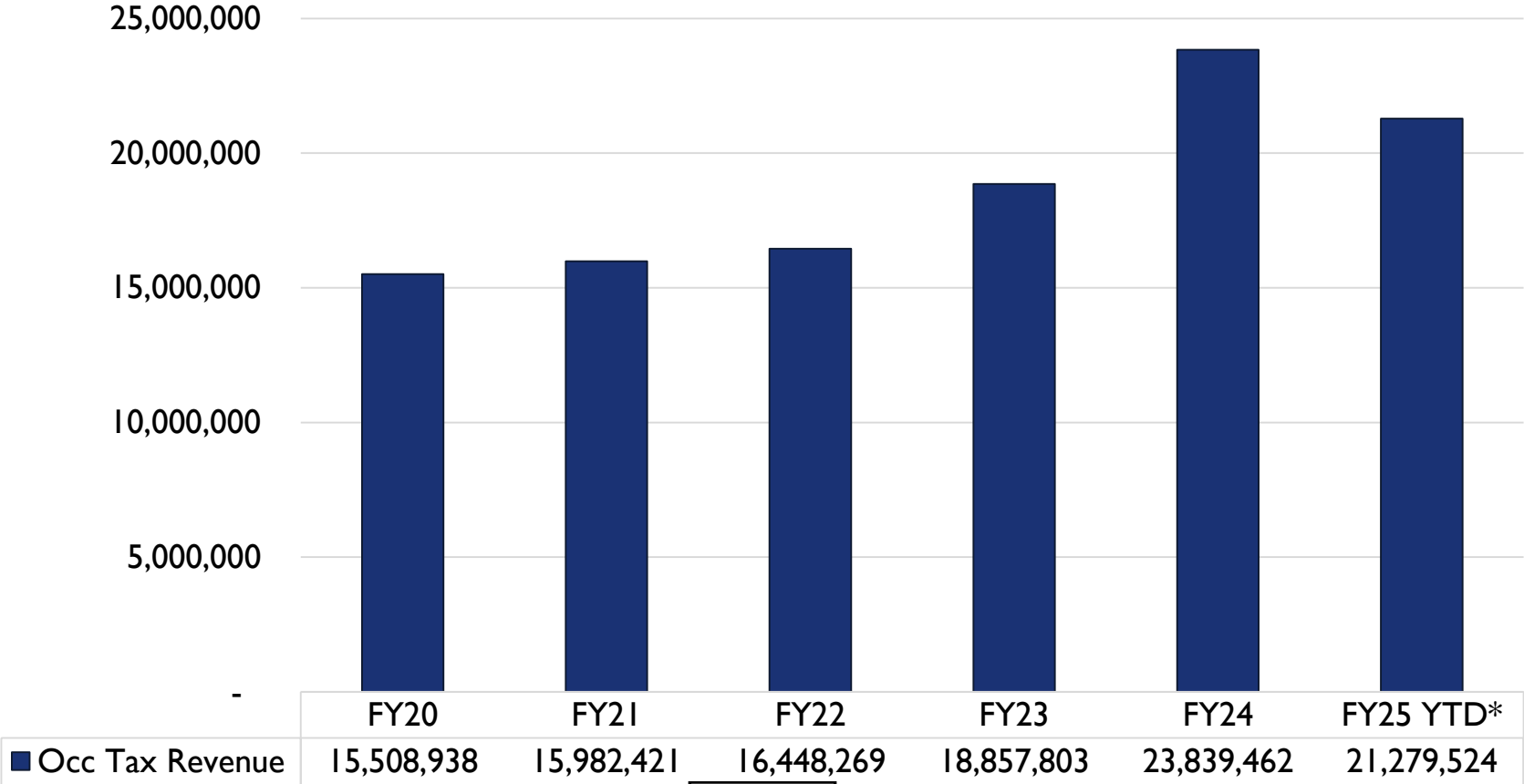
2ND QUARTER UPDATE

- 2025 license renewal processing is current.
- Pending problem letters have been reviewed and secondary contact has been made.
- Courtesy delinquency notice mailing process has been completed ahead of schedule. Typically notices are sent in August.
- Response date on courtesy delinquency notices is July 25, 2025.
- Delinquent accounts to be turned over to Code Enforcement in August 2025.

2ND QUARTER UPDATE

- Civic Access Self Service (CASS) Portal is live and for public use.
- CASS Portal allows online remittance of excise tax payments for Mixed Drinks (3% Liquor Tax) and Hotel/Motel Tax. Remaining excise payments i.e., vehicle rentals and alcohol distributors will be available online by the end of August 2025.
- Exploring different strategies to improve communication about the CASS Portal.
- Conducting weekly system improvement/online migration meetings with staff from Information Technology, Inspections and Code, and Finance.

OCCUPATION TAX REVENUE



*Unaudited

2ND QUARTER UPDATE

- Personnel
 - Recruitment is challenging but ongoing.
 - Increased participation in job fairs.
 - Continuous review of staff duties and responsibilities as new processes are implemented.

2025 AND BEYOND

- Code Enforcement is an ongoing activity that requires constant communication between Finance and Inspections and Code.
- Collaboration with others such as Tax Assessor's Office to help improve licensing compliance.
- Continue working towards additional automations to improve efficiency.
- Continuously reviewing/updating of operational policies and procedures.
- Initiate suggestions for code updates, such as eliminating quarter payments, should be considered as a matter of continuous process improvement.

Questions?

File Attachments for Item:

D. Business License Tax, Revenue Collection Services RFP Update – Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager, Finance, Planning & Development

BUSINESS LICENSE TAX/REVENUE COLLECTION SERVICES RFP NO. 25-0015

July 22, 2025

Item #D.

BUSINESS LICENSE TAX/REVENUE COLLECTION SERVICES RFP — SCOPE OF SERVICES

Item #D.

Business License Tax

- Maintaining, auditing, and issuing occupation tax, alcohol, and insurances licenses
- Collecting licensing taxes and fees in accordance with Chapter 3 and 19 of the Columbus Code

Revenue Collections

- Collection of excise taxes, lease payments, and billing support for demolitions, lots clearings and landfill utilization services

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

City Manager's Office*

Inspections & Code Department*

Public Works Department*

Columbus Police Department*

Finance Department

* Voting Members

BUSINESS LICENSE TAX/REVENUE COLLECTION SERVICES RFP

January 23, 2025 - RFP issued

February 19, 2025 - RFP closed

Three proposals received

Information missing from 2 of the 3 proposals

March 3, 2025 – Information received from vendors

March 10, 2025 – Evaluation Committee met for RFP
Instructions/Overview and distribution of proposals

March 21, 2025 – 1st Evaluation Meeting

BUSINESS LICENSE TAX/REVENUE COLLECTION SERVICES RFP

April 2025 – Clarifications requested from vendors and reference checks issued to organizations identified on the Client Work History for each vendor

May 13, 2025 – Reference check survey responses received and provided to the Evaluation Committee

June 4, 2025 – 2nd Evaluation Committee Meeting

- Interviews with each vendor requested by the committee

June 16, 2025 – Interviews with each vendor

June 16, 2025 – 3rd Evaluation Committee Meeting

- Committee unanimously voted to reject all proposals

NEXT STEPS

Option 1: Continue to operate the Revenue Division in the Finance Department with city employees

Option 2: Re-issue the RFP

?? QUESTIONS ??

File Attachments for Item:

E. ARP Update Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager, Finance, Planning & Development

American Rescue Plan Update

July 22, 2025



American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021

- ARP was passed by the House on February 27, 2021, the Senate on March 6, 2021 and signed into law on March 11, 2021
- \$1.9 trillion for economic relief from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic
- \$362 billion in direct aid (not thru the state) for states and local governments (Subtitle M., Sec. 9901 of the Act)

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021

- Uses of Funds
 - Respond to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts
 - Respond to workers performing essential work
 - Revenue replacement for the government
 - Investments in water, sewer or broadband infrastructure

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021

- Amount allocated to the City of Columbus/Muscogee County
 - City = \$40,456,205
 - County = \$38,025,833
 - TOTAL = \$78,482,038
- Amount received Phase 1
 - City = \$20,228,102.50 on June 7, 2021
 - County = \$19,012,916.50 on June 14, 2021
 - TOTAL = \$39,241,019
- Amount received Phase 2
 - City = \$20,228,102.50 on June 9, 2022
 - County = \$19,012,916.50 on June 16, 2022
 - TOTAL = \$39,241,019
- Total Expended = \$67,520,021.96
- Total Encumbered = \$10,771,407.79
- Balance = \$190,608.25

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021

- Eligible costs must be incurred/obligated between March 3, 2021 and December 31, 2024 and expended by December 31, 2026
- Financial reporting will be required on a quarterly basis and records must be maintained for five years after all funds have been expended
- Final Rule was released by the Treasury on January 6, 2022 and became effective April 1, 2022 which allows for more flexibility and a wider range of uses

ARP Phase 1 Funding Status

- Automation of Garbage Collection to include Garbage Trucks and Carts = \$19,699,145
- Trucks = \$12,869,195
 - Cab/Chassis on order
 - Trucks are being delivered
- 120,000 Carts approved by City Council on 11.16.2021 = \$6,829,950
 - Carts have been delivered.



ARP Phase 1 Funding Status



- Ambulances = \$2,099,517
 - Delivered



ARP Phase 1 Funding Status

- Community Safeguard Programs



- Summer Youth and Youth Development Programs (\$350,000)
 - \$350,000.00 Paid to date



- Cure Violence (\$500,000)
 - \$500,000 Paid to date





- Cameras – Phase 1 (\$2,660,756.90)
 - \$2,660,756.90 Paid to date

ARP Phase 1 Funding Status

- Broadband/Cyber Security Upgrades – Phase 1 = \$3,000,000
 - \$2,933,580.55 Expended, \$66,419.45 Encumbered
 - CSC, Civic Center, Fire Station #12, Parking Garages, Liberty Theatre completed.
 - Northside Rec Center, Fire Station 3, Edgewood Sr. Center and Lakebottom Park in progress. Trade Center in process.
- Revenue Recovery = \$3,559,470.84
 - Hotel/Motel Tax Revenue Recovery = \$2,476,843.95
 - General Fund Revenue Recovery = \$1,082,626.89
- Premium Pay for Public Safety and Other Essential Employees = \$5,000,000 original budget, \$3,705,313 spent
 - Paid to all eligible employees on Oct. 15th
 - Transfer balance to Cameras \$1,294,687

ARP Phase 1 Funding Status

- 
- 
- Small Business Grants = \$3,000,000 (Exhausted with current applications)
 - Nonprofit Grants = \$1,000,000 (\$393,000 to transfer to Small Business)
 - Economic/Tourism Grants = \$850,000 (\$750,000 to transfer to Small Business)
 - Application was released January 11th
 - Close portal for application submission
 - Utilize balance of funds in all 3 categories to satisfy applications under review
 - Administration = \$201,518.16 (Full-time temporary position for up to 3 years, Project Financial Analyst and other oversight expenditures)
 - Project Financial Analyst is on board, \$201,518.16 Paid to date

ARP Phase 2



ARP Phase 2 Funding Status

- **Community Assistance Programs focused in Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs) \$12.0 million** - At least 50% of households have an income less than 60% of the Area Median Gross Income

- Affordable Housing \$3 million (RFP Complete, Partners Selected, \$2,592,717.65 Encumbered, \$407,282.35 Expended.)



- Utility Assistance Program \$2 million (Contract with Enrichment Services executed. Expended \$2,000,000 to date, 2,193 households served for a total of 4,629 people. This included 2,434 children under 18, 844 disabled persons, and 709 elderly persons.)

- Homeowner Occupied Accessibility Rehab Program (HARP) \$3 million (Screening 600+ applicants, contracted with Habitat for Humanity to administer program, \$2,314,010.60 Encumbered, \$685,989.40 Expended.)

- Job Training/Workforce Development/Youth Work Program \$1,007.181.68, Expended \$719.630.85, Encumbered \$287,550.83.



- Mental Health Training/Intervention \$204,854.10

- Fire/EMS Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program and one ambulance \$224,629.14, \$37,415.42 Expended, \$187,213.72 Encumbered

- Community Safeguard Program \$400k Poverty Reduction Initiative (Agreement with United Way executed.) \$200,939.92 Expended, \$199,060.68 Encumbered.)

- *Family Connection (Funded thru Revenue Recovery allocation)



- 4 Navigators started Sept. 6, 2023. \$158,846.37 Expended

ARP Phase 2 Funding Status

- **Public Safety \$3.1 million**

- CPD Equipment \$364,501.89, \$360,358.82 Expended, \$4,141.89 Encumbered



- Mobile Command Vehicle \$1,350,286



- Police Dept. IBIS \$357,297

- Ambulances \$2.2 million, \$1,384,834.25 Expended, \$815,679 Encumbered

- **Judicial Backlog Program \$1.295 million**

- \$859,137.29 Expended, \$334,992.00 Encumbered.

ARP Phase 2 Funding Status

- **Facility Improvements \$5.46 million**
 - Civic Center HVAC \$2.25 million (Approved Feb. 13, 2024, \$1,849,285.90 Expended, \$400,714.10 Encumbered.)
 - Trade Center HVAC \$2.304 million (\$1,113,117.54 Expended, \$1,191,016.24 Encumbered)
 - Liberty Theater HVAC \$907k (\$425,920.85 Expended, \$481,854.38 Encumbered)
- **Administration \$359,374.76** (Full-time temporary position for up to 3 years, Project Financial Analyst and other oversight expenditures)
 - Expended \$68,537.24

ARP Phase 2 Funding Status

- **Revenue Recovery \$10,115,312.88**



- CCGTV Upgrades Expended \$745,927.18



- Cyber Security \$1.5 million



- Family Connection \$158,846.37 (Community Assistance Program)

- Public Safety Capital \$7,710,539.33

- CPD Pursuit Vehicles \$3,260,251.29, \$3,124,413.03 Expended, \$135,838.26 Encumbered

- Sheriff Pursuit Vehicles \$1,606,465, \$1,224,917 Expended, \$381,548 Encumbered

- Fire Apparatus \$2,843,823.04, \$1,501,978.04 Expended, \$1,341,845 Encumbered

- **Camera Program Phase 2 and 3 \$6,564,906.41**

- Expended \$6,556,580.22, Encumbered \$8,326.19

State Fiscal Recovery Funds

- Awarded \$4,000,000 to continue the Small Business/Non-Profit Grant Program
 - \$3,000,000 Small Business, revised to \$3,650,000
 - 116 / \$3,517,902.82 paid to date
 - Balance \$132,097.18
 - \$1,000,000 Nonprofits, revised to \$350,000
 - 13 / \$228,941.53 paid to date
 - Balance \$68,058.47
- 16 Applications denied. Did not meet the requirements of the approved program.
- 2 Applications withdrawn.

QUESTIONS



File Attachments for Item:

DATE: July 22, 2025

TO: Mayor and Councilors

FROM: Finance Department

SUBJECT: Advertised Bids/RFPs/RFOs

August 15, 2025

Design and Construction Services for Columbus Pickleball Facility – RFP No. 26-0006

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) is requesting proposals from qualified contractors to engage a Design-Builder to design and construct the new Columbus Pickleball Facility. The facility will be located at 1641 3rd Avenue and be comprised of twenty-seven (27) pickleball courts, including sixteen (16) covered courts. The facility will also include bathroom and concession facilities. Approximately one-hundred four (104) parking spaces will be constructed to support the facility within the existing rights of way of 3rd Avenue and 17th Street. The estimated budget for this project is \$7,000,000.

The selected Design-Builder will be responsible for all aspects of the design and construction.

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Bid Advertisement - Agenda Item**

DATE: July 22, 2025

TO: Mayor and Councilors

FROM: Finance Department

SUBJECT: Advertised Bids/RFPs/RFQs

August 15, 2025

1. Design and Construction Services for Columbus Pickleball Facility – RFP No. 26-0006

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) is requesting proposals from qualified contractors to engage a Design-Builder to design and construct the new Columbus Pickleball Facility. The facility will be located at 1641 3rd Avenue and be comprised of twenty-seven (27) pickleball courts, including sixteen (16) covered courts. The facility will also include bathroom and concession facilities. Approximately one-hundred four (104) parking spaces will be constructed to support the facility within the existing rights of way of 3rd Avenue and 17th Street. The estimated budget for this project is \$7,000,000.

The selected Design-Builder will be responsible for all aspects of the design and construction.

File Attachments for Item:

1. Memo: Board Quorum Challenges



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Council

From: Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

Cc: Lisa Goodwin, Deputy City Manager – Current Operations
Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager – Finance, Planning and Development

Date: July 22, 2025

Re: Board Quorum Challenges

The Clerk of Council's Office is responsible for managing 43 boards comprised of 351 seats. As part of our ongoing efforts to support these bodies, we have been corresponding with many of them to assess their needs and offer them assistance where possible.

It has become clear that many boards, commissions, and authorities are struggling to hold meetings and conduct business due to lack of quorum. This issue primarily stems from two factors:

1. Vacant seats on the boards.
2. Poor attendance by existing members.

Attached is a brief report summarizing the current vacant seats. We recommend that Council review the report and consider ways to assist in addressing the vacancies and improving attendance, to ensure these boards can effectively carry out their responsibilities.

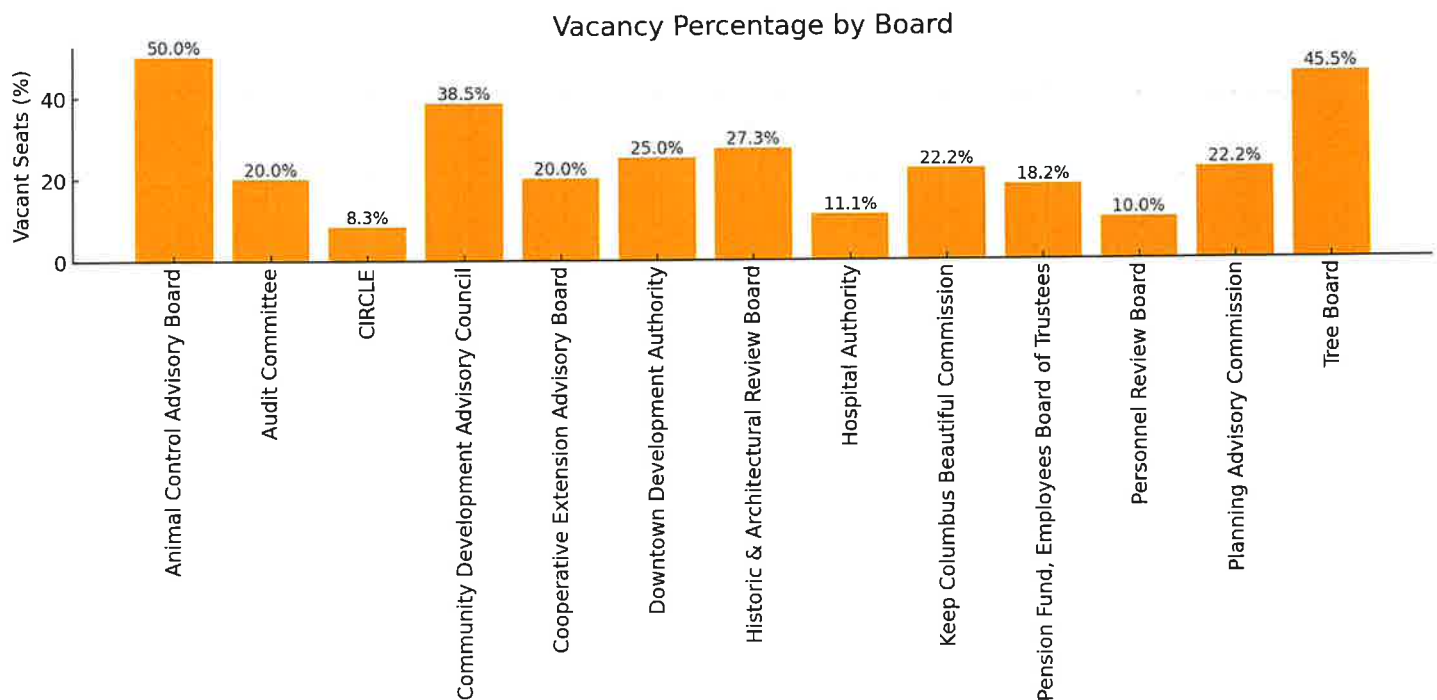
Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Respectfully,

Lindsey G. McLemore
Clerk of Council
City Council of Columbus, GA
www.columbusga.gov/coc

Board Vacancy Data Report

Board	Total Seats	Vacant Seats	Vacancy %
Animal Control Advisory Board	12	6	50.0%
Audit Committee	5	1	20.0%
CIRCLE	12	1	8.3%
Community Development Advisory Council	13	5	38.5%
Cooperative Extension Advisory Board	5	1	20.0%
Downtown Development Authority	8	2	25.0%
Historic & Architectural Review Board	11	3	27.3%
Hospital Authority	9	1	11.1%
Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission	9	2	22.2%
Pension Fund, Employees Board of Trustees	11	2	18.2%
Personnel Review Board	10	1	10.0%
Planning Advisory Commission	9	2	22.2%
Tree Board	11	5	45.5%



Note: The data presented in this report is derived from information recorded in the board management system maintained by the Clerk of Council's Office.

File Attachments for Item:

2. Memo: Columbus Golf Course Authority Minutes



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Council

From: Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

Cc: Jim Arendt, Golf Director

Date: July 22, 2025

Re: Columbus Golf Course Authority Minutes

While reviewing the current procedures for how minutes are submitted by boards, commissions, and authorities, we identified an issue with the minutes received from the Columbus Golf Course Authority.

Specifically, the Authority has been submitting their entire agenda packets rather than just the approved minutes. As a result, the dates recorded in the Council's permanent records have reflected the date on the first page of the agenda packet — not the actual date of the minutes — and this has led to inaccuracies in the official record.

Because this practice has persisted for years, and since the Clerk of Council's Office is the custodian of these minutes as part of the City's permanent records, it is important to formally bring this matter to the attention of Council and to ensure it is noted in the record.

Moving forward, the Clerk's Office has instructed the Columbus Golf Course Authority to submit only the approved minutes of their meetings in order to ensure accuracy and compliance with record-keeping standards.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Respectfully,

Lindsey G. McLemore
Clerk of Council
City Council of Columbus, GA
www.columbusga.gov/coc

File Attachments for Item:

3. Request to declare the seat of Julio Portillo (*District 8*) as vacant on the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC).

Denise M. Cambridge, Board Chair
Community Development Advisory Council

Date: July 14, 2025

Lindsey McLemore, Clerk of Council
Columbus Consolidated Government
Columbus, GA 31902

Subject: Request for Removal of Inactive Advisory Council Member Due to Non-Attendance

Dear Clerk McLemore,

I am writing to formally request the removal of Mr. Julio Portillo from the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC) due to a continued lack of attendance, in accordance with the bylaws governing this advisory council.

According to our bylaws, members are expected to attend regular meetings and actively participate in CDAC activities. Mr. Portillo has not attended 4 consecutive scheduled meetings during the 2025 calendar year and has not communicated any intent to continue participation. There has been no response or engagement from the member over the past seven months despite ongoing outreach efforts from the board chair and secretary.

Per Article IV Section 3 of our bylaws, this level of non-attendance qualifies as grounds for removal. Maintaining an active and engaged membership is essential to the effective operation of the council and to fulfilling our pledged commitment of service to the community.

We respectfully request that the Columbus City Council initiate the process for removal. I will follow up with a letter outlining who we are, what we do, and what we need so that the next appointee can begin their term with a clear understanding of this advisory council role and current priorities. Our goal is to ensure incoming members are informed, engaged, and ready to contribute meaningfully to the mission of CDAC.

Please feel free to contact me if further information or documentation is required.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Denise M. Cambridge
Board Chair
dmcambridge@live.com
(706) 761-8507

File Attachments for Item:

4. Resignation of Adrian Wade (*District 6*) from his seat on the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC).

Subject: Formal Resignation from the Community Development Advisory Council

Dear Chair Cambridge and Members of the CDAC Board,

I hope this message finds you well.

I am writing to formally resign from my position on the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC), effective July 16, 2025.

Serving on the council has been an honor, and I appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the work of community development and engagement. However, due to shifting priorities and commitments, I believe it is in the best interest of the board that I step aside to refocus my time on ventures and initiatives more closely aligned with my current mission and commitments.

Thank you again for the opportunity and for your support during my time on the board.

With respect,

Adrian Wade

File Attachments for Item:

5. Minutes of the following boards:

Board of Tax Assessors, #23-25

Columbus Golf Course Authority, 01.14.2025

Columbus Golf Course Authority, 02.11.2025

Columbus Golf Course Authority, 04.22.2025

Columbus Golf Course Authority, 05.28.2025



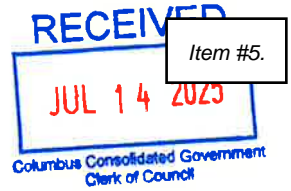
Columbus, Georgia, Board of Tax Assessors

GEORGIA'S FIRST CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT

City Services Center
3111 Citizens Way
Columbus, GA 31906

Mailing Address:
PO Box 1340
Columbus, GA 31902

Telephone (706) 653-4398, 4402
Fax (706) 225-3800



Board Members

Jayne Govar
Chairman

Kathy Jones
Assessor

Clay Hood
Assessor

Doug Jefcoat
Assessor

Lanitra Sandifer Hicks
Vice Chairman

Chief Appraiser
Suzanne Widenhouse

MINUTES #23-25

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Jayne Govar calls the Columbus, Georgia Board of Assessors' meeting to order on Monday, June 30, 2025 at 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT ARE:

Chairman Jayne Govar
Vice Chairman Lanitra Sandifer Hicks
Assessor Kathy Jones
Assessor Doug Jefcoat
Assessor Clay Hood
Chief Appraiser/Secretary Suzanne Widenhouse
Recording Secretary Katrina Culpepper

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Assessor Jones motions to accept the agenda. Vice Chairman Lanitra Sandifer Hicks seconds and the motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Assessor Jefcoat motions to accept the minutes as presented. Vice Chairman Lanitra Sandifer Hicks seconds and the motion carries.

MISCELLANEOUS: Chief Appraiser Widenhouse reminds the Board of the schedule for July meetings. There will be a meeting next week on July 7th. There will not be a meeting on the following Monday, July 14th due to lack of quorum. The last Monday board meeting will be held on July 28th. After that date, board meetings will begin to be held on Wednesdays. This new meeting day has been posted and broadcast in various areas to notify the public.

At 9:06, Chief Appraiser Suzanne Widenhouse presents to the Board:

- Missy Kendrick with Choose Columbus (Development Authority) was introduced to the board. She left the meeting @ 9:29.
- Affidavits for Executive sessions will be added to Board processes.
- Policy Revision - Attorney Ellington will bring back a "comparative" version next week for the Board to vote on. Assessor Jefcoat motions to table until next meeting. Assessor Hood seconds and the motion carries.

- Vice Chairman Lanitra Sandifer Hicks motions to go into Executive Session @ 9:57 to discuss personnel issues and litigation. Assessor Jones seconds and the motion carries.
- Assessor Jones motions to excuse Attorney Ellington @ 10:31. Assessor Hood seconds and the motion carries. No votes taken.
- Executive Session continues to discuss litigation - no votes taken.
- Assessor Jefcoat motions to leave Executive Session @ 11:03. Assessor Jones seconds and the motion carries.
- Board signed letter to address concerned citizen.

At 11:23, Administrative Manager Leilani Floyd presents to the Board:

- Homesteads - #093 023 015; 071 004 045; 146 006 002B; 094 014 005; 192 015 010; 115 015 028 - Signed & Approved.

At 11:27, Personal Property Manager Stacy Pollard presents to the Board:

- Audit Results - Signed & Approved.
- No Change Audit Results - no signatures needed. Placed into record.

At 11:30, Deputy Chief Appraiser Glen Thomason presents to the Board:

- Map Splits - #131 001 039; 131 005 022 thru 032; 131 013 010 thru 023; 131 016 024 thru 029; 175 001 001; 164 001 006 - Signed & Approved.
- Request for Non-Disclosure - Signed & Denied.

Assessor Jefcoat motions to adjourn the meeting. Assessor Hood seconds and the motion carries.

At 11:40, Chairman Jayne Govar adjourns the meeting without any objections.

Suzanne Widenhouse
Chief Appraiser/Secretary

APPROVED: _____

MIN# 24 - 25 JUL 21 2025

				
J. GOVAR CHAIRMAN	absent K. JONES ASSESSOR	D. JEFCOAT ASSESSOR	C. HOOD ASSESSOR	L. SANDIFER HICKS VICE CHAIRMAN

COLUMBUS GOLF AUTHORITY MINUTES

JANUARY 14, 2025

Chairman William Roundtree called the meeting to order.,

Superintendent Steve Brown said his crews have been giving stump grinding, tree cutting and tree trimming serious attention since purchasing the grinder, truck and aerial saw a month ago.

Training of new inmate personnel continues to be a major project. Of 11 inmates on two crews, six are scheduled for release by June, and of 24 on three crews, only four are qualified to mow greens. Rotation of inmates requires constant training of replacements.

Brown said he is still awaiting deliver of a dump trailer that would allow transport of sand to bunker locations for reworking necessary for bunker improvement. He has one trailer capable of hauling some sand and is positioning sand in locations to make it easier to then deliver to bunkers in close proximity to the supply.

Director of Golf Jim Arendt said in November, Bull Creek golf course recorded \$98,813 in revenue, according to official city reports, but the actual revenue was "significantly more," grossing about \$225,000. December gross sales totaled more than \$179,000.

Oxbow Creek's revenues for November were \$60,799 in city reports, but totaled \$49,412. December sales were \$35,511. The director said the actual sales do include taxes collected, and the difference in the reports continues to be due to city recognition of deposits versus actual collection during the periods cited. Some deposits dated after city records close are recognized in the next month's reports.

Arendt noted that Nikki Siter resigned her post as assistant professional charged with Oxbow Creek operations. She was unhappy at her job and submitted a two-week notice. Since her departure, Assistant Professionals Adam

Cooper and Jon Shuskey have worked at the facility, and staff at the course have been pleased with the result. Confidence in the staff at Oxbow is high, he said.

The director also noted that Adam Cooper has taken on the task of building an inventory of all equipment for an eventual detailed report.

Jon Shuskey reported he is working on building the Columbus Junior Golf Association, which will have its Spring meeting on Feb. 10 at Bull Creek, with a start on March 10. Last season, the program accommodated 60 juniors, with more expected to participate in the coming season. Saturday morning clinics begin Feb. 1 and continue through the Saturday before Thanksgiving, he said.

Arendt said Bull Creek's cash reserves total \$530,744, with Oxbow Creek's reserves at (-\$35,329).

Revenue projections for the current fiscal year ending June 30 show Bull Creek expected to total \$2,848,000, Oxbow Creek to total \$716,612, and Oxbow Creek to total \$72,271.

The director asked for permission to purchase two Yamaha vehicles – one a used beverage cart in good condition with about 200 hours usage and at about a third of the cost of a new cart – and one a flatbed that can be used as a shuttle cart transporting up to six passengers. Cost would be up to \$35,000. Ken Davis made a motion to approve the purchase, Ken Crumpler seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Arendt said he is working on a plan to shift to a hybrid personnel operation that would add some part-time workers who would mow greens on a regular basis, with inmate laborers freed for other tasks. This would give more continuity to qualified mowing staff and reduce reliance on inmate labor for that task. Cost would probably include a \$15 hour pay rate, with about \$56,700 required for the plan. In the meantime, he said he will continue to seek the prison warden's help in obtaining the necessary number of inmates for work each day, plus a timely release for the early-morning mowing schedule to be met.

The director said Columbus Councilor JoAnne Cogle has indicated she is willing to meet with Authority representatives to discuss a recommendation that Council consider designating the landfill site off of South Lumpkin Road as reserved for future expansion of Oxbow Creek Golf Course to 18 holes. A meeting date is requested for a volunteer committee of four members, with other Councilors, such as Glenn Davis, possibly joining for the discussion. A date and site will be designated for the meeting.

Arendt reported the liquor license application submitted for Bull Creek Golf Course is expected to be approved "any day now." It is also expected to cost less for the first year than originally estimated.

The director said a new grill operator is needed to replace a part-time employee who resigned. The advertising has begun for a full-time and part-time operator.

Another new employee, Carlene Forbes, has been hired as a part-time Accounting Technician. She will replace the previous part-time assistant who is returning to service as a grill/beverage cart employee.

Arendt said he, Adam Cooper and Jon Shuskey will be attending the annual PGA equipment show in Florida next week.

Construction of a new golf web site is well under way, he said, with work continuing on photos and verbiage to be included on the site.

New point-of-sale hardware and programs are now being placed at Godwin Creek Golf Course. It is hoped that the trial of that operation can ultimately result in a better system that can be put in place at each golf course, Arendt said.

Tommy Nobles, who has chaired a committee looking into use of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax revenue for Oxbow and Bull Creek courses, said he has had difficulty getting city officials who are authorities on SPLOST operations to return his calls requesting information. He also said he has found information indicating that a bridge for Oxbow Creek that city officials have indicated would cost about \$800,000 has actually been built in

place at other golf locations for about \$160,000. Chairman Roundtree said he would try to contact the City Manager for assistance in getting the information desired.

New officers for the Bull Creek Golf Authority were elected, with Ken Crumpler making a motion to have the current slate of officers continue for another term. The vote was unanimous to retain William Roundtree as Chairman, Richard Mahone as Vice-Chairman and Jim Houston as Secretary.

Arendt reported that the Authority Budget Committee has met. Preliminary figures from which an eventual budget recommendation will be drawn were distributed to members for their review. A budget session has been scheduled for 4 p.m. on Feb. 11.

A motion was made by Ken Crumpler, seconded by Gerald Miley, to convene in Executive Session on a personnel issue, as permitted by the Georgia Open Meetings Act. The motion passed unanimously and the panel recessed the regular session, subject to returning upon conclusion of the Executive Session.

Upon reconvening, no other business was taken up and Ken Crumpler made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Tommy Nobles, and the vote was unanimously approved.

Attending were Chairman William Roundtree, Ken Crumpler, Tommy Nobles, Gerald Miley, Stephanie Leohr, Ken Davis, Secretary Jim Houston and Vice Chairman Richard Mahone. Alonzo Jones was absent.

COLUMBUS GOLF AUTHORITY MINUTES

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

Chairman William Roundtree called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the Jan. 14, 2025, meeting were approved by unanimous vote upon a motion by Ken Crumpler, seconded by Tommy Nobles.

Superintendent Steve Brown reported his crews have been focusing on tree trimming and removal, clearing underbrush, grinding stumps and repairing cart paths.

Poa annua grass has been found in greens and has become tolerant to the herbicide previously used to prevent its presence. New herbicides are being introduced to find the product that best prevents its incursion, Brown said. Using the same herbicide repeatedly allows the grass strain to develop resistance, so continual efforts must be made to find the best preventive chemical.

Pre-emerge will be applied before mid-March to halt the germination of weeds, he said.

A new John Deere greens roller has arrived and is in use, but the existing roller is still out of service while a new engine coil is sought to repair its motor. The new aerial lift saw is also out of service due to failure of a part, but the part is under a two-year warranty guarantee that also covers labor, Brown said.

Director of Golf Jim Arendt reported that Oxbow Creek reported revenues of \$43,618 in December, and year-to-date revenues total \$287,133, or about half of the projected revenue budget for the year.

Bull Creek revenues for December totaled \$263,001, and for the year amounted to \$1.145 million, which is just over half of its projected annual revenue of \$2.2 million.

Point of sale figures for January show Bull Creek generated more than \$101,000, despite losing a week due to weather conditions, and Oxbow took in more than \$33,000.

Arendt said the inmate guard, Marquis Harris, at Oxbow has suffered a stroke and is in rehab. A temporary replacement will be hired. It is expected that Harris will have to requalify in order to return to the position.

Assistant Pro Jon Shuskey reported the Columbus Junior Golf Association met with the middle school league on Monday night. Eight schools participate in the program and a good turnout is expected for 2025. Turnout also has been good the first two weekends of junior instruction on Saturday morning. Word-of-mouth has been growing the program among juniors, he said.

Assistant Pro Adam Cooper said he has completed most of an updated report detailing equipment, which includes an eyes-on experience for each piece. The report will include its model, its expected life and photographs as well as anticipated replacement cost.

Director Arendt said Bull Creek's cash reserves to date total \$384,182.80, which is less than previous reports because some funds have been used to purchase equipment, and winter months are not the best for generating cash flow. Oxbow Creek's cash reserve is (-\$68,390.75).

A High School Golf-Junior Golf Initiative started in February, including the girls' teams of Northside High, Columbus High, Pacelli and Calvary Baptist.

More outings are projected for the golf season just beginning, with an increase expected over the busy outings periods experienced last year, Arendt said.

The alcohol license for Bull Creek is still in process, which will enable liquor and wine to be sold along with the beer already being sold at the course. The staff selling the beverages will receive ABC cards allowing them to handle the product, he said.

A web site to promote the golf courses, reserve golf times and record events and experiences is almost ready for activation. It will be a significant improvement over the current product, Arendt said.

A request has been made to have a meeting to discuss new bridges needed at Bull Creek and Oxbow Creek, which were a part of the improvements package approved in the most recent Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST). The meeting with a golf course consultant and city officials is hoped to take place between Feb. 21-26, he said.

The director said the proposed budget for Bull Creek for Fiscal Year 2025-26 is expected to total \$2,644,500.

There is a need for a professional grill manager position. It is not only needed now to supervise staff, prepare schedules and purchases, but will be even more in demand when the projected new clubhouse – also part of the approved SPLOST items – is built and in service. A salary of up to \$55,000 is recommended, Arendt said.

Godwin Creek also needs greens and fairway mowers, and a new point-of-sale system – potentially to eventually replace those at Bull Creek and Oxbow Creek – is to be put into operation at the par-3 course in Bibb City, Arendt said.

The proposed budget also includes a \$2,500 item to allow attendance at the 2026 PGA show in Florida.

The budget is to be submitted by Feb. 14, with a review by the city manager and mayor between March 17-28, and submission to Columbus Council as part of the mayor's budget proposal on April 29. Council will hold budget review sessions on May 5, 13 and 20, with the final budget proposal presented for first reading and then approval in June.

Stephanie Leohr made a motion, seconded by Ken Davis, to approve the proposed budget for submission to the city. The motion passed unanimously.

Tommy Nobles reported meeting with the city officials and an architect to discuss clubhouse issues, but no significant progress was made over previous discussions.

Nobles also reported on the meeting he and Authority members Jim Houston, Ken Davis and Chairman William Roundtree had with Golf Director Arendt and Columbus Councilors Joanne Cogle and Glenn Davis. He said the councilors were generally supportive of possible expansion of Oxbow Creek to an 18-hole facility, using the former landfill area along South Lumpkin Road for the additional holes. However, the meeting resulted in a notation that a serious environmental study might have to be undertaken before any physical activity toward such construction could begin, or before serious planning or commitment to use of the property could be considered.

Jim Houston suggested that city officials be asked for copies of any environmental studies or reports that have already been performed on that property following its closure as a landfill.

Nobles also reported that a proposal to place a plaque honoring Richard Callahan at Godwin Creek is still being pursued by proponents. A motion was made by Richard Mahone, seconded by Jim Houston, to limit any such plaque to dimensions of 8x12 inches. The motion passed by a vote of seven members in favor and two members (Alonzo Jones and Stephanie Leohr) abstaining.

Nobles also made a motion, seconded by Jim Houston, to spend up to \$800 for a bronze plaque to be placed with an existing bust at Godwin Creek in honor of the facility's namesake, Bill Godwin. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to adjourn was made by Alonzo Jones, seconded by Ken Crumpler, to adjourn the meeting and was passed unanimously.

Attending were Chairman William Roundtree, Ken Crumpler, Tommy Nobles, Gerald Miley, Stephanie Leohr, Alonzo Jones, Ken Davis, Secretary Jim Houston and Vice Chairman Richard Mahone.

COLUMBUS GOLF AUTHORITY MINUTES

APRIL 22, 2025

Chairman William Roundtree called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the March 25, 2025, meeting were then approved by unanimous vote upon a motion by Richard Mahone, seconded by Tommy Nobles.

Superintendent Steve Brown reported that since the tornado hit Bull Creek Golf Course on April 6, his 3 inmate work crews have been cutting trees and hauling logs. The city also has authorized employment of Elite Tree Service to help clear the damage, and city work crews from the Public Works Department have also helped tremendously, he said.

Holes 4-12 on the West Course suffered tremendous damage and will take much longer and more effort to restore for play, he said. Georgia Power Co. brought its heavy equipment across the fairway fronting Hole 11 and their transit to the high transmission lines that had to be repaired caused damage to the cart path between Holes 11-12, but the power company already has repaired the cart path and is going to lay sod to repair the fairway damages.

"We have just been overwhelmed," Brown said, adding that other work, such as fertilizing fairways, has been placed on hold as a push is made to get at least 27 holes open for play.

Director of Golf Jim Arendt said the city's HR Department is working on an insurance claim for damage and use of equipment, and wear and tear that results.

Brown also noted that Oxbow Creek remains without an inmate guard for the crew that normally works that course. The guard employed by the Authority is on sick leave as he attempts to recover from illness.

Arendt reported that the guard's allotted recovery time, which holds his job open for his return, is rapidly diminishing and it is hoped that he will recover in time to resume his duties. However, despite much compassion for his situation, the work at Oxbow needs to resume and it may become necessary at some point to vacate that position and hire another inmate guard.

Arendt also reported that Bull Creek took in \$107,232 in revenue in March, and has generated more than \$1.52 million toward its budget of \$2.2 million for the fiscal year. Actual revenue generated for the month, according to the Point of Sales data, reflects Bull Creek's total was \$245,072.

Oxbow Creek's March revenues, posted on city reports, shows \$36,267 was generated, yielding a year-to-date total of \$388,541 of the course's \$554,000 budget for the year. Point-of-sale data recorded \$73,216 in revenue for March at Oxbow.

The golf director Also recounted the activities at Bull Creek at the time of the tornado and shortly thereafter, including how Darrell Grissom telephoned a warning of bad weather approaching and the employees and patrons gathered as advised in areas of the clubhouse not near windows. Afterward, a search of the parking lot showed that all patrons had departed – except for occupants of one vehicle.

A search of the course was launched and a crushed golf cart, hidden beneath fallen trees, was eventually spotted near the East Course Hole No. 1 tee box. Two male occupants, a father and son from Harris County, were found penned, but lifeless, beneath the fallen trees. The coroner, paramedics and the fire department were called and the two men were declared dead.

The golf director specifically cited Assistant Superintendent Charles Lewis, Assistant Professional Adam Cooper and part-time employee Jay Graham for their prompt response and work in the immediate aftermath of the storm.

Arendt noted that the inmate crews were working longer shifts and doing yeoman's work, for which he recommended increasing their daily compensation from \$3 per man to \$6 per man for the extended days. Tommy Nobles made a motion, seconded by Ken Crumpler, to authorize paying \$6 per inmate for the designated days of extra effort.

The golf director reported that the city offered the services of the Pastoral Institute for any employee who needed help in dealing with the deadly storm experience, with confidentiality assured for any who availed themselves of the offer.

He also noted that the City Manager and Mayor had been supportive of the work to recover from the storm's effects, and the Public Works Department assured that its workers would be available "until the work is done." Parks and Recreation also helped with equipment and services.

Arendt noted that one annual fee member had called the mayor questioning how to be compensated for inability to play the courses during the time they were closed. Arendt said he had never been confronted with such a complaint, but would try to find a way to deal with the member's concerns.

The Hughston Pavilion, sponsored by the Hughston Clinic, has agreed to sponsor the pavilion for five additional years at \$6,000 per year, an increase of \$1,000 per year over the current sponsorship agreement.

The storm resulted in some events being canceled and lost, with some resulting in postponement and rescheduling. The strategy, with the East Course now open for play, will be to add nine additional holes as soon as possible, and the final nine when that portion is deemed safe and playable. The operation of a 27-hole facility will not be a problem, said Arendt, who previously managed a north Georgia course with 27 holes.

A fire alarm recently touched off at 10 p.m. and it was discovered that kitchen towels previously washed and dried, had produced the smoke. The towels were gathered in a single container after being taken from the machine. No further explanation is available for the cause of the episode.

Arendt said there is an apparent agreement that a proposal to use a "sole source" provider clause to employ an experienced bridge-builder company for the replacement bridge at Oxbow Creek will be permitted. The estimated cost of \$136,000 for the structure and \$40,000 for its installation will save a considerable amount of money compared to an original estimate for the replacement bridge.

Chairman Roundtree concluded the meeting with an expression of thanks for the Bull Creek staff for "an outstanding job" in coping with the storm and the ensuing labors. He also noted that a "Go Fund Me" account some have proposed could be a benefit in helping make improvements at Bull Creek and Oxbow Creek.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ken Crumpler, seconded by Stephanie Leohr, to adjourn the meeting and was passed unanimously.

Attending were Chairman William Roundtree, Ken Crumpler, Tommy Nobles, Stephanie Leohr, Alonzo Jones, Ken Davis, Vice Chairman Richard Mahone, Gerald Miley and Secretary Jim Houston.

COLUMBUS GOLF AUTHORITY MINUTES

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Chairman Roundtree concluded the meeting with an expression of thanks for the Bull Creek staff for "an outstanding job" in coping with the storm and the ensuing labors. He also noted that a "Go Fund Me" account some have proposed could be a benefit in helping make improvements at Bull Creek and Oxbow Creek.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ken Crumpler, seconded by Stephanie Leohr, to adjourn the meeting and was passed unanimously.

Attending were Chairman William Roundtree, Ken Crumpler, Tommy Nobles, Stephanie Leohr, Alonzo Jones, Ken Davis, Vice Chairman Richard Mahone, Gerald Miley and Secretary Jim Houston.

COLUMBUS GOLF AUTHORITY MINUTES

MAY 28, 2025

Chairman William Roundtree called the meeting to order.

Friends of Columbus Golf Chairman Bruce Bacon was welcomed by the chairman and asked to brief the Authority on the 501c3 charity's mission and how it plans to impact public golf in Columbus.

Bacon said the tax-exempt non-profit has a 5-member board and was founded with the purpose of helping junior golf, especially with low-income residents, veterans and, through teaching programs, creating an opportunity to curb violence within communities. It will handle fund-raising and donations that will be used to help sponsor programs, clinics and tournaments for junior golfers, build character, introduce problem-solving practices and decision-making skills, and generally build a positive influence on life through golf.

Funds will only be available for public facilities promoting or providing golf opportunities. Initially, goals include establishing a web site, expand the board membership, educate the community and establish support groups, pursue grants and launch programs that will lead to goal fulfillment.

Chairman Roundtree said he and Director of Golf Jim Arendt will seek information from the city's attorney as to how the public courses within the Authority's governance may work with and benefit from the charity's benevolence.

Minutes of the April 22, 2025 meeting of the Authority were approved by unanimous vote upon a motion by Tommy Nobles, seconded by Ken Crumpler.

Superintendent Steve Brown said work continues to focus primarily on tree removal and trimming required after the recent tornado that struck Bull Creek Golf Course. Three inmate work crews are working each day on that

project, and the city has been a great help, including hauling off logs and debris. But he said it likely will continue to be necessary to have log and debris removal assistance for the rest of the year.

Brown also said the city's foresters are assessing trees at Oxbow Creek Golf Course, where as many as five trees already need to be removed.

The good news is that the new equipment for the golf courses, some on order for more than two years, has finally arrived in full.

Aerification of Bull Creek's West Course will begin next Monday, with the East to be aerified in July. Oxbow will be aerified during June, as will the Godwin Creek greens, he said.

The position of inmate guard for Oxbow Creek has now been posted, with the previous guard still recovering from a stroke and unable to qualify for return to the position at this time.

Director Arendt said the city's Risk Management Department and its insurance carrier have assessed damages incurred at Bull Creek as a result of the storm, including such items as stump removal, debris removal, and facilities damaged. It's possible damages could total between \$400,000-\$500,000.

Revenues at Bull Creek during April exceeded \$287,000, with a year-to-date total of \$1.8 million of the \$2.2 million budget for the fiscal year. May revenues to date total almost \$260,000, and Bull Creek revenues are expected to exceed the budget again this year, Arendt said.

Oxbow revenues were \$131,628 in April, resulting in more than \$520,000 for the year to date, which will allow the 9-hole facility to "easily exceed" its budget of \$654,842 without requiring a \$100,000 transfer-in from city coffers. More than \$90,000 in revenue recorded during the last month also reinforces that projection, the director said.

Bull Creek now has cash reserves of \$362,260.10 as of May 22, and Oxbow Creek has a cash reserve of \$31,345.17 – the first positive figure reported this year for the course.

Arendt also reported that the latest total of funds raised for local charities since Bull Creek's inception reached more than \$7 million.

The Authority has been requested to release a 5-foot linear section of property along the existing fence separating Godwin Creek from the city's soccer field parking area. The section is needed to provide more parking for the soccer patrons. Arendt noted that there already have been complaints of errant golf balls flying into property beyond the proposed expanded parking area. Authority members expressed a reluctance to authorize the property transfer without further information, which the director said he will pursue.

Arendt said he has job postings for one assistant PGA professional, the guard position at Oxbow Creek and for a grill server.

The director also said he has solicited quotes for a weather warning system for all golf facilities, and Emergency Management Director Chance Corbett has pledged to assist in seeking grant funds for that proposed system.

Outings during the past month have been numerous and very successful, including the first ever booked by The Bridge, an organization that in its 23-year history of outings in Columbus has never been at Bull Creek, but reported it was "the best ever" and has already booked a return in 2026. Other outings included the AA Georgia High School Championship, which Columbus High won, Southern Power's Plant Franklin, Calvary Christian, Columbus Water Works, TSYS and the Georgia Sheriff's Association.

The golf director noted that Bull Creek's rate plan does not include a rate for college students. He proposed that a new College Rate be set at \$37 for 18 holes with cart, with a membership rate of \$500, the same as now accorded seniors and military members. Gerald Miley made a motion, seconded by Alonzo Jones, to approve the new rate and it was adopted unanimously.

Tommy Nobles said it will have been a year on July 1 since the last rate increase for Bull Creek and Oxbow Creek play. He made a motion to increase those rates, excluding junior golf, by \$1 effective July 1. The motion was seconded by Gerald Miley and approved by unanimous vote.

Chairman Roundtree said he has a conflict with the June 24 Authority meeting date and asked if members would agree to advance the meeting by a week. Director Arendt asked members to check their schedules and notify by e-mail whether Tuesday the 17th or Thursday the 19th is preferred. He said he will notify members and the public of the meeting date agreed upon.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ken Crumpler, seconded by Alonzo Jones, to adjourn the meeting and was passed unanimously.

Attending were Chairman William Roundtree, Ken Crumpler, Tommy Nobles, Alonzo Jones, Ken Davis, Vice Chairman Richard Mahone, Gerald Miley and Secretary Jim Houston. Stephanie Leohr was absent.

File Attachments for Item:

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

COLUMBUS SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY:

New Member

(Certified Public Accountant)

Open for Nominations

(Mayor's Appointment)

The terms are three years, with the terms beginning July 1, 2025, and the term expiration of the first appointments being staggered pursuant to Ordinance 25-011.

PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES' BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Vacant

(Business Community)

Term Expires: June 30, 2026

Open for Nominations

(Mayor's Appointment)

The terms are four years. Meets monthly.

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

(District 1 – Hickey)

Vacant

Term Expires: March 27, 2026

The terms for the Mayor’s Appointments are three years and Council’s Appointments are two years. Meets quarterly.

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL:

District 5 Nominee: _____

District 9 Nominee: _____

District 10 Nominee: _____

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

KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:

Vacant

(Senatorial District 15)

Open for Nominations

(Council’s Appointment)

Term Expires: June 30, 2027

The terms are three years. Meets every other month.

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)

The terms are three years. Meets every other month.

PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION:

Ralph King

Not Eligible to succeed

Term Expired: March 31, 2025

****Councilor Chambers is nominating Anthony Smith***

Open for Nominations

(Council's Appointment)

Larry Derby

Not Eligible to succeed

Term Expired: March 31, 2025

**Councilor Cogle is nominating Haley Lyman*

Open for Nominations

(Council's Appointment)

These terms are three years. Meets twice a month.

RETIREES' HEALTH BENEFITS COMMITTEE:

Thomas Barron

Not Eligible

Term Expired: June 30, 2025

Open for Nominations

(Council's Appointment)

The term of the Mayor's appointee is two years. The terms of Council's appointees are four years. Meets once a month.

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Board Appointments – Action Requested**

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

A. COLUMBUS SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY:

New Member

(Certified Public Accountant)

Open for Nominations
(Mayor’s Appointment)

The terms are three years, with the terms beginning July 1, 2025, and the term expiration of the first appointments being staggered pursuant to Ordinance 25-011.

Women: 1

Senatorial District 15: 1

Senatorial District 29: 3

Vacancies: 11

B. PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES’ BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Vacant

(Business Community)

Term Expires: June 30, 2026

Open for Nominations
(Mayor’s Appointment)

The terms are four years. Meets monthly.

Women: 4

Senatorial District 15: 9

Senatorial District 29: 2

Vacancies: 1

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

A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

(District 1 – Hickey)

Vacant

Term Expires: March 27, 2026

The terms for the Mayor's Appointments are three years and Council's Appointments are two years. Meets quarterly.

Women: 4

Senatorial District 15: 9

Senatorial District 29: 2

Vacancies: 2

B. YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL:

District 5 Nominee: _____

District 9 Nominee: _____

District 10 Nominee: _____

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

A. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:

Vacant

(Senatorial District 15)

Term Expires: June 30, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

The terms are three years. Meets every other month.

Women: 4

Senatorial District 15: 5

Senatorial District 29: 3

Vacancies: 2

B. 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)*The terms are three years. Meets every other month.***Women:** 2**Senatorial District 15:** 3**Senatorial District 29:** 1**Vacancies:** 0**C. PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION:****Ralph King***Not Eligible to succeed*

Term Expired: March 31, 2025

**Councilor Chambers is nominating Anthony Smith*Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)**Larry Derby***Not Eligible to succeed*

Term Expired: March 31, 2025

**Councilor Cogle is nominating Haley Lyman*Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)*These terms are three years. Meets twice a month.*

Women:	2
Senatorial District 15:	6
Senatorial District 29:	3
Vacancies:	0

D. RETIREES' HEALTH BENEFITS COMMITTEE:**Thomas Barron***Not Eligible*

Term Expired: June 30, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

The term of the Mayor's appointee is two years. The terms of Council's appointees are four years. Meets once a month.

Women: 4

Senatorial District 15: n/a

Senatorial District 29: n/a

Vacancies: 0

File Attachments for Item:

ADD-ON: BOARD APPOINTMENTS – ACTION REQUESTED

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

BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

_____ Open for Nominations
Vacant (Mayor’s Appointment)
Term Expired: March 24, 2025

Terms are two years. Meet as needed.

COUNCIL’S CONFIRMATION - RECOMMENDATION FROM ORGANIZATIONS / AGENCIES:

UPTOWN FACADE BOARD:

James Lewis Open for Nominations
(Uptown Business Improvement Dist. Rep) (Council’s Appointment)
Not Eligible to succeed
Term Expires: October 31, 2024
**Fredrick Hill is being recommended by the Uptown Business Improvement District.*

Hannah Israel Open for Nominations
(Uptown Business Improvement Dist. Rep) (Council’s Appointment)
Not Eligible to succeed

Term Expires: October 31, 2024

****Ginger Surprise is being recommended by the Uptown Business Improvement District.***

The terms are three years. Board meets monthly.

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

BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

Vacant

Term Expires: March 24, 2027

****Seat previously held by Johnny W. Byrd, II, who recently passed.***

Terms are two years. Meet as needed.

Open for Nominations

(Council's Appointment)

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Board Appointments – Action Requested**

ADD-ON: BOARD APPOINTMENTS – ACTION REQUESTED

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

A. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

Vacant

Term Expired: March 24, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Mayor’s Appointment)

Terms are two years. Meet as needed.

Women:	1
Senatorial District 15:	0
Senatorial District 29:	3
Vacancies:	2

10. COUNCIL’S CONFIRMATION - RECOMMENDATION FROM ORGANIZATIONS / AGENCIES:

A. UPTOWN FACADE BOARD:

James Lewis

(Uptown Business Improvement Dist. Rep)

Not Eligible to succeed

Term Expires: October 31, 2024

**Fredrick Hill is being recommended by the Uptown Business Improvement District.*

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Hannah Israel

(Uptown Business Improvement Dist. Rep)

Not Eligible to succeed

Term Expires: October 31, 2024

**Ginger Surprise is being recommended by the Uptown Business Improvement District.*

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

The terms are three years. Board meets monthly.

Women:	5
Senatorial District 15:	4

Senatorial District 29:	3
Vacancies:	2

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

A. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

Vacant

Term Expires: March 24, 2027

**Seat previously held by Johnny W. Byrd, II, who recently passed.*

Terms are two years. Meet as needed.

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Women:	1
Senatorial District 15:	0
Senatorial District 29:	3
Vacancies:	2