

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Columbus 2025 Funding Support
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Development Authority to support the Columbus 2025 Initiative for \$3,000,000.
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

Recommendation: Approval is requested to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Development Authority to support the Columbus 2025 Initiative for \$3,000,000.

Background: Columbus 2025 began in 2015 with an effort called the Regional Prosperity Initiative. This was organized by the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce to develop a plan for growth and prosperity for the Columbus region. A research-based regional community and economic development plan was developed with 5 keys areas of focus, Cohesive Image & Identity, Targeted Economic Growth, Talented, Educated People, Vibrant & Connected Places, and Enterprising Culture.

Analysis: The Columbus 2025 Leadership team has developed an \$11 million budget to address the action items in the plan. The city has been requested to fund \$3 million of the budget over a 3-year period.

Financial Considerations: Funding is available in the Economic Development Fund to provide \$1 million per year for 3 years to support this initiative in FY24-FY26.

Legal Considerations: The City Attorney will review the MOU and approve as to form.

Recommendation/Action: Approval is requested to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Development Authority to support the Columbus 2025 Initiative for \$3,000,000.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO DEVELOP A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE COLUMBUS CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO SUPPORT THE COLUMBUS 2025 INITIATIVE FOR \$3 MILLION.

WHEREAS, the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce organized the Regional Prosperity Initiative in 2015; and

WHEREAS, a consultant was engaged to develop a research-based regional community and economic development plan; and

WHEREAS, the Columbus 2025 initiative was created to address the five key target areas; and

WHEREAS, the Columbus 2025 Leadership has developed an \$11 million budget to address the action items in the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Columbus 2025 Leadership has requested the city provide \$3 million funding towards the budget over a 3-year period; and

WHEREAS, the city has identified funding from the Economic Development Fund.

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

The Council of Columbus, Georgia hereby authorizes the City Manager to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the Development Authority for \$3 million in support of the Columbus 2025 initiative and authorize the use of the Economic Development Funds of \$1 million per year for 3 years in FY24-FY26.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the _____ day of _____ October 2022 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ten members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Barnes voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor House voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.

Councilor Thomas voting
Councilor Tucker voting
Councilor Woodson voting

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, Mayor