

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

October 13, 2026
9:00 AM
Regular Meeting

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

PRESENT: Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors Simi Barnes, Travis L. Chambers, Joanne Cogle, Cathy Cook, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis (arrived at 9:17 a.m.), R. Walker Garrett, Bruce Huff (arrived at 9:18 a.m.) and Toyia Tucker (arrived at 11:11 a.m.). City Manager Tyson Begly, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Senior Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall, Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin, Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge, Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore, and Deputy Clerk of Council Tameka Colbert.

ABSENT: N/A

The following documents have been included as a part of the electronic Agenda Packet: (1) MA#4: Callie Elizabeth Shafer – Keep Columbus Beautiful; (2) CM#15(A): Pickleball Complex Funding Options; (3) CM#15(B): Public Safety Building Renovation Update; (4) CM#15(C): Bradley Circle Landfill Compliance Report

The following documents were distributed around the Council table: (1) PA#5: Documents; (2) PA#10: Presentation to Columbus City Council

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

INVOCATION: Offered by Chaplain Jose Merchan, Fort Benning

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Eden Vann from Blanchard Elementary

MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes for the September 29, 2026, Consent Agenda / Work Session. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Cook and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Davis, Huff and Tucker being absent for the vote.

PROCLAMATIONS:

2. Proclamation: Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Receiving: Cheryl A Johnson, President & CEO West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition

Councilor Charmaine Crabb read the proclamation into the record proclaiming the month of October 2026, as *Breast Cancer Awareness Month*, to promote awareness, early detection, and access to screenings. She also recognized the West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition for its efforts to support cancer patients and families through education, community outreach.

3. Proclamation: Communities in Motion Day

Receiving: Everett Fleming, Interim Director, METRA Transit System

Councilor Joanne Cogle read the proclamation into the record proclaiming Thursday, October 15, 2026, as *Communities in Motion Day*, highlighting the importance of public transportation in providing access to employment, education, healthcare, and essential services while supporting economic development and community well-being.

PRESENTATIONS:

4. Recognition - Callie Elizabeth Shafer – 6th Grade, Richards Middle School

Deputy Director Becky Summerlin, Parks & Recreation, recognized Callie Schaefer, a fifth-grade student at Clubview Elementary School, for her community service project involving the cleanup of Lakebottom Park.

Callie Elizabeth Shafer, 6th Grade, Richards Middle School, explained that she selected Keep Columbus Beautiful as the focus of her project because of her interest in reducing litter and pollution in the community.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Director of Community Reinvestment

Resolution (334-26): - A resolution authorizing the appointment of Ms. Kimberly Mitchell as Director of the Community Reinvestment Department. Councilor Chambers made a motion to

approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cook and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote.

Director Kimberly Mitchell, Community Reinvestment, expressed appreciation to her family, City leadership, the hiring committee, and her departmental staff for their support. She emphasized her commitment to strengthening community resilience over the next five years.

2. Director of Facility Maintenance

Resolution (335-26): - A Resolution authorizing the appointment of Mr. Edward Allen Minton as Director of the Facilities Maintenance Department. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Chambers and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote.

Director Allen Minton, Facilities Maintenance Department, expressed appreciation to Council for the opportunity to serve and emphasized his commitment to strengthening preventive maintenance, accountability, and departmental standards.

3. Director of METRA Transit System

Resolution (336-26): - A resolution authorizing the appointment of Mr. Everett Fleming as Director of METRA Transit System. Councilor Chambers made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cook and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote.

Director Everett Fleming, METRA Transit System, expressed appreciation to Council for the appointment and recognized his staff for their dedication. He emphasized his commitment to utilizing technology and providing safe, efficient, and equitable transportation services.

(NOTE: These items were called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Manager's Agenda Items #1, #2 & #3)

MAYOR'S AGENDA(continued)

PRESENTATIONS:

5. Columbus Pickleball Association – Lance Tankersley, President of Columbus Pickleball Association

Lance Tankersley, President of Columbus Pickleball Association, highlighted the project's potential economic impact, private funding contributions, and the Association's commitment to supporting future programming and maintenance. He expressed support for completing the Uptown Pickleball Complex with all 25 courts, including covered and bridge courts.

Dr. Fady Mansour, Director of the Butler Center for Research and Economic Development, presented findings from the economic impact study of the proposed pickleball facility. He reported that the estimates were conservative and did not include an assessment of future demand, facility size, or opportunity costs.

Doug Miller, Local Pickleball League Organizer, discussed the growth of pickleball in Columbus, highlighting increased league participation, youth programs, and charitable fundraising efforts. He advised that current playing costs range from free to \$3 and emphasized the community benefits of the proposed 25-court facility.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

15. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Pickleball Update - Ryan Pruett, Director of Inspections & Code

Director Ryan Pruett, Inspections & Code, presented three funding options for the proposed Uptown Pickleball Complex. He also outlined the project's infrastructure requirements and noted that certain amenities could be added later if funding becomes available.

Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve \$1.7 million in additional funding to maintain project scope, which includes the construction of 25 courts, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried by a seven to two vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Chambers, Cogle, Crabb, Davis, Garrett and Huff voting yes and Councilor Barnes and Cook voting no, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote.

(NOTE: This item was called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Manager's Agenda Item #15(A))

MAYOR'S AGENDA(continued)

6. Military Liaison Officer Program – Amber Clark, Airport Director, Columbus Airport

Amber Clark, Airport Director, Columbus Airport announced the launch of the Military Liaison Officer Program on October 29th, designed to provide personalized assistance to Fort Benning soldiers traveling through the airport. She highlighted the partnership with local veterans, and volunteers to assist soldiers throughout the boarding process.

Reverend Mark Lawrence, who is a military veteran, expressed his support for the Military Liaison Officer Program and shared his personal experience of receiving encouragement while traveling during his military service.

CITY ATTORNEY’S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

1. **1st Reading:** REZN 07-26-1373: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **3813 Meritas Drive** (parcel # 014-004-005) from General Commercial (GC) Zoning District to Residential Multifamily – 1 (RMF1) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Garrett)

(NOTE: The applicant was recognized as present, and the floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment and no questions from Council.)

2. **1st Reading:** REZN 08-26-1524: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **1404 Hunt Avenue** (parcel # 086-063-016) from Single Family Residential – 2 (SFR2) Zoning District to Single Family Residential – 4 (SFR4) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Barnes)

(NOTE: The applicant was recognized as present, and the floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment and no questions from Council.)

3. **1st Reading:** REZN 08-26-1525: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **4458 and 4462 Steam Mill Road** (parcel #088-021-004/3) from Single Family Residential – 2 (SFR2) Zoning District to Single Family Residential – 4 (SFR4) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Barnes)

Director Will Johnson, Planning Department, corrected an error in the agenda, clarifying that the property is being rezoned from SFR2 to SFR4 for four single-family homes.

4. **1st Reading:** REZN 08-26-1527: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at 6800 Macon Road (parcel # 111-014-030) from Residential Office (RO) Zoning District to Heavy Manufacturing/Industrial (HMI) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Council Tucker)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Val McGowan

Joey Robinson, Robinson Paving Company, Applicant, stated that his company is under contract to purchase the property from Alberly Properties, LLC.

5. **1st Reading:** REZN-08-26-1656: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **7500 Heardmont Ct, Lot 9** (parcel # 167-001-033) from Residential Estates 10 (RE10) Zoning District to Residential Estates 5 (RE5) Zoning District with a condition. Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Davis)

(NOTE: The applicant was recognized as present, and the floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment and no questions from Council.)

6. **1st Reading:** REZN-08-26-1677: An ordinance amending Sections 13.1.1 and 3.2.66 the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) for Columbus, Georgia, to revise certain definitions. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Mayor Pro-Tem)

Director Will Johnson, Planning Department, advised that the definition of disability was recently updated to comply with current federal standards.

7. **1st Reading:** An Ordinance amending Section 17-25 of the Columbus Code to revise certain Columbus Police Department promotional requirements; and for other purposes.(Mayor Pro-Tem)

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE MAYOR:

- Provide the number of officers currently eligible for promotion and the number who would become eligible under the proposed amendment. Also, provide information on how the changes may affect officers currently awaiting promotion. (*Councilor Huff*)

Councilor Huff made a motion to delay the ordinance on first reading for two weeks, seconded by Councilor Chambers and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote.

- 8. 1st Reading:** An Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Columbus Code to add a representative of the Columbus Lions professional indoor football team as a non-voting ex officio member of the Columbus Sports and Entertainment Authority; and for other purposes. (Councilor Cogle)

(NOTE: The floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment and no questions from the members of Council.)

- 9. 1st Reading:** An ordinance to amend the Uptown Parking Enforcement Map contained in Section 20-13.11(b)(1). of the Columbus Code to revise permitted parking time limitations; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem)

(NOTE: The floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment and no questions from the members of Council.)

PUBLIC AGENDA

1. Mr. Emilio Rosa, representing Roque Car Sales & Rental, Re: Zoning Matter.

Director Will Johnson, Planning Department, explained that the property located at 2409 South Lumpkin Road is currently zoned Neighborhood Commercial and is being considered for rezoning to General Commercial (GC).

2. Mr. Corie Wilson, Re: Lack of Trust in Local Elected Officials Due to Curfew.
3. Dr. Natalie Nicole, representing Role Model Academy of Arts, Re: Formal Request for Council Motion to Conduct a Review of the Police Chief Under Established Leadership Accountability Standards. ***Not Present***

4. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Blight and Participatory-Budgeting. **Not Present**
5. Ms. Toni Webb, Re: Council Vote and Health Fair.
6. Mr. Carey Hall, Re: Alcohol License. **Not Present**
7. Mr. Val McGowan, Re: Pickleball Funds – Partnership, Fraud, Waste, and Abuse.
8. Ms. Vernell Strachan, representing Pine Meadows Tenant Committee, Re: Septic Issues.

Director Ryan Pruett, Inspections & Code, explained that tenants experiencing unresolved maintenance issues should contact their office or 311 to request an inspection. He noted that property owners who fail to correct violations may face citations and court action.

(NOTE: Councilor Cogle left the meeting at 11:21 a.m.)

9. Rev. Johnny Flakes, III, representing IMA, Re: Accountability.
10. Mr. Henry Gaillard, Re: ADA Assistance for a Columbus Resident.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Provide an update on the City's efforts to improve walkability, including sidewalk improvements and plans for heavily traveled areas of Columbus. *(Councilor Barnes)*

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA (continued)

1. Director of Community Reinvestment

A resolution authorizing the appointment of Ms. Kimberly Mitchell as Director of the Community Reinvestment Department. *(NOTE: Item called forward during the Mayor's Agenda.)*

2. Director of Facility Maintenance

A Resolution authorizing the appointment of Mr. Edward Allen Minton as Director of the Facilities Maintenance Department. *(NOTE: Item called forward during the Mayor's Agenda.)*

3. Director of METRA Transit System

A resolution authorizing the appointment of Mr. Everett Fleming as Director of METRA Transit System. (*NOTE: Item called forward during the Mayor's Agenda.*)

4. Georgia Power Easement Request at 7533 River Road

Resolution (337-26): - A resolution authorizing the City Manager to grant an easement to Georgia Power Company onto the property located at 7533 River Road, Columbus, Muscogee County, Georgia 31904 for an amount of \$3,200 to upgrade the electric distribution facility to improve service reliability for the area. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Cogle and Davis being absent for the vote.

5. Disposition of Public Alleyways between 32nd Street and 35th Street

Resolution (338-26): - A resolution to sell city-owned property to adjacent landowner, Bibb City Enterprises, LLC, in accordance with Section 7-501 paragraph 5 of the Columbus Charter, and to authorize the Mayor or designee to execute all contracts, agreements and understandings related to the conveyance of city property. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cook and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Cogle and Davis being absent for the vote.

6. Cascade Hills Church - Adopt-a-Spot MOU – Highway 80/22 Corridor Beautification

A Resolution (339-26): - A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, requesting approval of a memorandum of understanding between the Columbus Consolidated Government (the "city") and Cascade Hills Church for the Highway 80/22 landscaping, beautification, and maintenance project. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cook and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Cogle and Davis being absent for the vote.

7. Street Acceptance Located in Phase Four, Heiferhorn Farms

Resolution (340-26): - A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, authorizing the acceptance of a deed to Longhorn Lane, that portion of Kadie Way, and that portion of Calf Creek Lane located in phase four, Heiferhorn Farms, on behalf of Columbus, Georgia. Councilor Tucker made a motion

to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cook and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Cogle and Davis being absent for the vote.

8. Street Acceptance Located in Section Two, Phase Three, North Ivy Park.

Resolution (341-26): - A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, authorizing the acceptance of a deed to Silver Lace Drive, Silver Lace Court, and that portion of Mountain Ivy Drive located in Section Two, Phase Three, North Ivy Park, on behalf of Columbus, Georgia. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cook and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Cogle and Davis being absent for the vote.

9. Street Acceptance Located in Old Town a Mixed Community

Resolution (342-26): - A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, authorizing the acceptance of a deed to Seafoam Drive, that portion of High Hat Drive and that portion of Dancing Blaze Drive located in Old Town, a mixed community, on behalf of Columbus, Georgia. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cook and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Cogle and Davis being absent for the vote.

10. 2027 Legislative Agenda

Approval is requested of the resolutions for the 2027 Legislative Session of the Georgia General Assembly, which the Mayor and Council deem appropriate.

10 (1). MUSCOGEE COUNTY PROBATE COURT JUDGE – SALARIES:

Resolution (343-26) – A resolution requesting that the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce legislation to revise the salary structure to relate the Probate Judge and his Associate Judge’s compensation to that of a Chattahoochee Superior Court Judge. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cook and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Cogle being absent for the vote.

10 (2). FUNDING FOR COUNTIES AND BOARD OF ELECTIONS FOR ANY AND ALL ADDITIONAL EXPENSES:

Resolution (344-26) – A resolution requesting that the local legislative delegation introduce an amendment to general law to include funding for counties and boards of elections to cover any and all additional expenses of moving to any elections system including paper ballots statewide in Georgia. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cook and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Cogle being absent for the vote.

10 (3). SUSTAINABLE STATE SUPPORT FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE AND PUBLIC-SAFETY TECHNOLOGY:

Resolution (345-26) – A resolution requesting that the local legislative delegation introduce an amendment sponsor or support legislation, appropriations, and administrative initiatives establishing *predictable, recurring* state support for Georgia Search and Rescue teams and funding opportunities for public-safety technology available to eligible agencies throughout Georgia. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Cogle being absent for the vote.

10 (4). SUSTAINABLE FUNDING AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE:

Resolution (346-26) – A resolution requesting that the local legislative delegation sponsor or support legislation, appropriations, and administrative initiatives establishing *sustainable* funding and reimbursement pathways for eligible mobile integrated healthcare and community paramedicine services provided by qualified agencies throughout Georgia. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Cogle being absent for the vote.

10 (5). HOTEL MOTEL TAX ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY:

Resolution (347-26) – A resolution requesting that the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce general legislation at the 2027 Session of the Georgia General Assembly to amend O.C.G.A. Section 48-13-50.4 (g) so as to require the marketplace innkeeper shall provide reporting which provides the address and sales information collected by it on behalf of another person or facilitator. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Cogle being absent for the vote.

Director Angelica Alexander, Finance Department, clarified that short-term vacation rental operators are required to obtain an annual permit and business license and pay applicable excise taxes. She explained that although Airbnb and Vrbo remit taxes monthly, the City does not receive information identifying the properties associated with those payments, making enforcement difficult. She also noted that previous efforts to identify rental properties through tracking software were unsuccessful due to inaccurate reporting.

Director Ryan Pruett, Inspections & Code, explained that short-term rental operators who violate City ordinances may be cited and face fines of up to \$1,000 per day through Recorder's Court. He added that enforcement can be challenging because property owners often live out of town, making it difficult to locate and serve them with citations.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Arrange a meeting with Senior Recorder's Court Judge to discuss enforcement challenges involving unlicensed short-term rentals and unresponsive property owners. (*Mayor Pro Tem Allen*)

10 (6). NEXT GENERATION 911 SYSTEM:

Resolution (348-26) – A resolution requesting that the local delegation to the General Assembly support the ACCG policy position with respect to implementation of the Next Generation 911 System. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Cogle being absent for the vote.

11. Georgia Medicaid Fee for Service – Ground Ambulance Upper Payment Limit – Supplemental Payment Program

Resolution (349-26): - A resolution authorizing approval to participate in the Georgia Medicaid Fee for Service Upper Payment Limit Supplemental Payment Program and authorize payment via Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT) to the State of Georgia, as required, based on formula calculations performed by the Department of Community Health (DCH). Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Barnes and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Cogle being absent for the vote.

12. FY2028 5303 Grant Application for Planning Assistance

Resolution (350-26): - A resolution authorizing the City of Columbus, Georgia to submit an application for, and if awarded, accept a grant, from the Department of Transportation, United States of America, and Georgia Department of Transportation, under Title 49 U.S.C., Section 5303. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Cogle being absent for the vote.

13. Georgia Trauma Commission – Georgia Trauma Care Network

Resolution (351-26): - A resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant of \$17,898.33 or as otherwise awarded, from the Georgia Trauma Commission - Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission Grant, with no local match requirement and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded. Funds will be utilized for the purchase of trauma equipment to aid the citizens of Columbus and surrounding counties. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Cogle being absent for the vote.

(NOTE: Councilor Tucker left the meeting at 11:58 a.m.)

14. PURCHASES

A. Pine Grove Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Phase 5: Cells 5A – 5C – RFP No. 26-0017

Resolution (352-26): - A resolution authorizing the execution of a contract with Peed Bros., Inc., for the construction of the Pine Grove Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Phase 5: Cells 5A – 5C. The estimated construction budget for this project is \$8,500,000. The recommended contractor's cost proposal is within the budgeted amount. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

B. Laboratory Services Contract for Engineering

Resolution (353-26): - A resolution authorizing the execution of a five-year contract for laboratory services with Columbus Water Works (Columbus, GA), component unit of Columbus Consolidated Government, for the estimated annual contract amount of \$8,844.00. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

C. Contract Extension for Traffic Sign Materials (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 21-0008

Resolution (354-26): - A resolution authorizing the extension of the annual contract with Vulcan, Inc – Vulcan Sign Division (Foley, AL) through September 11, 2027, for the purchase of Traffic Sign Materials on an “as needed” basis. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

D. Facility Maintenance Equipment and Services (Annual Contract) – BuyBoard Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (355-26): - A resolution authorizing the execution of an annual contract for the purchase of facility maintenance equipment and services on an “as needed” basis from Transcor Supply, Inc. (Jacksonville, FL). The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via BuyBoard Contract #757-24. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

E. First-In Alerting Smart Station System for Fire & EMS – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (356-26): - A resolution authorizing the purchase of the First-in Alerting Smart Station System from Westnet, LLC (Huntington Beach, CA) in the amount of \$259,479.06. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #020625-WNT. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

F. Three (3) Ford Mavericks for Inspections and Codes – Georgia Statewide Cooperative Contract Purchase

Resolution (357-26): - A resolution authorizing the purchase of three (3) 2027 Ford Mavericks for the Inspections and Code Department from Wade Ford (Smyrna, GA) at a unit price of \$30,000.00 and a total cost of \$90,000.00. The vehicles will be accomplished by cooperative purchase via Georgia State Contract #99999-001-SPD0000218-0001. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

G. Contract Extension for Custodial Supplies (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 19-0039

Resolution (358-26): - A resolution authorizing the extension of the annual contract for the purchase of custodial supplies on an “as needed basis” through February 28, 2027 with Key Maintenance Supply (Atlanta, GA), Robinson Supply Company (Columbus, GA), Southeastern Paper Group (Atlanta, GA), Veritiv Operating Company (Norcross, GA), Pyramid School Products (Tampa, FL), COPACO (Columbus, GA), Grainger Industrial (Macon, GA), Associated Paper (Conyers, GA), Acuity Specialty Products dba Zep Sales & Service (Atlanta, GA) and Imperial Dade (Loxley, AL) Various departments of the Columbus Consolidated Government utilize the custodial supplies and chemicals provided by the vendors. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

H. Five (5) 2027 Ford Bronco Sport Suvs for Tax Assessor – Georgia Statewide Cooperative Contract Purchase

Resolution (359-26): - A resolution authorizing the purchase of five (5) 2027 Ford Bronco Sport SUVs for the Tax Assessor from Wade Ford (Smyrna, GA) at a unit price of \$32,635.00 and a total cost of \$167,175.00. The purchase will be accomplished by cooperative purchase via Georgia State #99999-001-SPD0000218-0001. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

I. Used & Confiscated Firearms for Credit or Swap for Police Department – RFB No. 27-0004

Resolution (360-26): - A resolution authorizing the credit or swap of four hundred eighty (480) used and confiscated firearms from the Columbus Police Department for twenty-seven (27) Heckler & Koch MRA4 MR556 A4 SBR 11” Part No. 81001048 and accessories provided by Dana Safety Supply, Inc. (Tampa, FL). There will be no cost to the City for the swap of the firearms. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

J. Two (2) Ford F-150 Trucks for METRA – Georgia Statewide Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (361-26): - A resolution authorizing the purchase of two (2) Ford F-150 (1/2 ton) Trucks for METRA from Allan Vigil Ford (Morrow, GA) at a unit cost of \$49,172.00 and a total purchase amount of \$98,344.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-SPD0000218-0002. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve

the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

K. Declaration of Surplus and Donation of One (1) Ford F-450 Diesel Ambulance

Resolution (362-26): - A resolution authorizing to declare one (1) Ford F-450 Diesel Ambulance, VIN #4ENLAAA88H1001147, from the Fire and EMS Department, as surplus, in accordance with section 7-501 of the Charter of Columbus Consolidated Government; and further authorized to donate the ambulance to the Harris County, Georgia Emergency Medical Services. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

L. Concessionaire Services Contract Extension for Parks and Recreation Sports Facilities (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 19-0012

Resolution (363-26): - A resolution authorizing the continuance of the annual contract with Chester's Barbecue (Columbus, GA), through April 30, 2027, for concessionaire services for Parks & Recreation's sports facilities. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

M. Contract Extension for Electrical Fixtures, Parts and Supplies (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 21-0004

Resolution (364-26): - A resolution authorizing the extension of the annual contract for Electrical Fixtures, Parts & Supplies with Interstate Electrical Supply, Inc. (Columbus, GA) through January 31, 2027. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle, Garrett and Tucker being absent for the vote.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Review previous legislative requests regarding allowing City employees and elected officials to invest or conduct business within TAD boundaries, provided they do not participate in or receive TAD funding. (*Councilor Davis*)

- Revisit previous legislative requests for measures to discourage mass breeding of animals and encourage pet adoption.

16. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Pickleball Update - Ryan Pruett, Director of Inspections & Code. (*NOTE: Item called forward during the Mayor's Agenda.*)

- B. Public Safety Building Update - Ryan Pruett Director of Inspections & Code

Director Ryan Pruett, Inspections & Code, provided an update on the Public Safety Building renovation project, funded through the 2021 SPLOST. He reported the total estimated project cost and outlined planned improvements, including roofing, plumbing, elevators, lighting, HVAC, and technology upgrades. He recommended using accumulated SPLOST interest earnings to cover the additional costs.

- C. Bradley Circle Landfill Compliance Report Update - Kimberly Mitchell, Assistant Director of Community Reinvestment

Director Kimberly Mitchell, Community Reinvestment, provided an update on the Bradley Circle Landfill in the Bibb City area. She reported that recent testing found the surface soil and groundwater met state standards, while subsurface soil remained noncompliant. She explained that additional testing and cleanup activities are planned through an EPA grant, although additional funding may be needed.

BID ADVERTISEMENT

DATE: October 13, 2026
TO: Mayor and Councilors
FROM: Finance Department
SUBJECT: Advertised Bids/RFPs/RFQs

October 14, 2026

1. Dragonfly Trail – River Road Segment (S.R. 219) – RFP No. 27-0006

Scope of Bid

This project consists of constructing a new trail beginning near Cascade Road in Columbus, Georgia. The trail will run south along River Road (SR 219) and continue west to the existing riverwalk at Lake Oliver Road. The project length is approximately 5,026 lf and includes a 10' wide concrete trail, pedestrian bridge, landscape improvements, stormwater improvements, and trail amenities. Additional work associated with the project includes minor demolition and clearing, erosion control, grading, and signage. Portions of the project are located on state right-of-way. A GDOT encroachment permit has been obtained by the City of Columbus. A dba goal of 10% has been established for this project.

2. Tennis Court Resurfacing at Lakebottom Park and Double Churches Park – RFB No. 27-0011

Scope of Bid

Provide all labor, equipment, and materials to resurface the tennis courts at Lakebottom Park and Double Churches Park.

3. Electrical Fixtures, Parts and Supplies – RFB No. 27-0012

Scope of RFB

Provide various electrical fixtures, parts and supplies to Columbus Consolidated Government on an “as needed” basis. The contract period will be for two (2) years with the option to renew for three (3) additional twelve-month periods.

October 28, 2026

1. Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System – RFP No. 27-0008

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) is seeking proposals from qualified vendors to provide a fully integrated Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system and related implementation services. The proposed system shall modernize financial, human resource, and administrative operations through a secure, scalable, and integrated solution.

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES - INFORMATION ONLY

1. Upcoming Board Appointments: Airport Commission
2. Upcoming Board Appointments: Board of Health
3. Upcoming Board Appointments: Board of Honor
4. Upcoming Board Appointments: Board of Tax Assessors
5. Upcoming Board Appointments: Board of Water Commissioners
6. Upcoming Board Appointments: Columbus & Visitors Board of Commissioners (CVB)
7. Upcoming Board Appointments: Housing Authority of Columbus

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

8. **Resolution (365-26):** - A Resolution approving the erection of honorary street signage reading "Dr. Tony R. Dickerson Way" at the intersection of Prince Avenue and St. Mary's Road. *(Approval of this resolution will reconcile the action taken by Council on September 8, 2026.)* Councilor Barnes made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilors Cogle, Chambers, Huff and Tucker being absent for the vote.
9. **Resolution (366-26):** - A Resolution approving the renaming of the Boxwood Recreation Center in honor of the late Councilor Jerry 'Pops' Barnes. *(Approval of this resolution will reconcile the action taken by Council on September 8, 2026.)* Councilor Barnes made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilors Cogle, Chambers, Huff and Tucker being absent for the vote.
10. **Resolution (367-26):** - A Resolution excusing Councilor Simi Barnes from the September 29, 2026, Consent Agenda / Work Session. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilors Cogle, Chambers, Huff and Tucker being absent for the vote.
11. **Resolution (368-26):** - A Resolution excusing Councilor Joanne Cogle from the September 29, 2026, Consent Agenda / Work Session. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the

resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilors Cogle, Chambers, Huff and Tucker being absent for the vote.

- 12. Resolution (369-26):** - A Resolution excusing Councilor Bruce Huff from the September 29, 2026, Consent Agenda / Work Session. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilors Cogle, Chambers, Huff and Tucker being absent for the vote.

13. Minutes of the following boards:

Animal Control Advisory Board 03-18-26

Board of Children and Family Services 09-24-26

Board of Tax Assessors #35-26

Columbus Airport Commission 08-27-26

Columbus Golf Authority 08-18-26

Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority 08-10-26

Convention & Visitors Board of Commissioners (CVB) 08-19-26

Downtown Development Authority 08-26-26

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilors Cogle, Chambers, Huff and Tucker being absent for the vote.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED

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

A. AUDIT COMMITTEE:

A nominee for a vacant seat for a Finance/Accounting or Governmental Rep. on the Audit Committee that expired on June 30, 2027. (*Mayor's Appointment*) There were none.

B. COLUMBUS IRONWORKS CONVENTION & TRADE CENTER:

A nominee for the seat of Jonathan Payne (*Not Eligible*) with a term that expires on October 24, 2025, on the Columbus Ironworks Convention & Trade Center (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

C. COLUMBUS SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY:

A nominee for a vacant seat for a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority that expired on June 30, 2026. (*Mayor's Appointment*) There were none.

D. COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND CULTURAL LIAISON ENCOUNTERS (CIRCLE):

A nominee for a vacant seat for a on the Commission on International Relation and Cultural Liaison Encounters (CIRCLE) that expires on March 1, 2027. (*Mayor's Appointment*) There were none.

E. PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES' BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

A nominee for a vacant seat with a term that expired on June 30, 2026, as a representative of the Business Community on the Pension Fund, Employees' Board of Trustees (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

F. PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION:

A nominee for the seat of Charles A. McClure, Jr (*Eligible*) with a term that expires on October 31, 2025, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

15. COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS – LISTED FOR CONFIRMATION:

- A. **TREE BOARD:** Olivia Sampson was nominated to fill a vacant seat for an at-large representative. (*Councilor Cogle's nominee*) Term expires: December 31, 2028. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Chambers, Cogle and Tucker being absent for the vote.

16. NOMINATIONS – CONFIRMED BY COUNCIL:

A. HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (BHAR):

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Uptown Business Association*) for a term expiring on January 31, 2029, on the Historic & Architectural Review Board (*Confirmed by Council*). There were none.

B. UPTOWN FAÇADE BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Rachel Kelly (*Uptown Business Improvement District*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2026, on the Uptown Façade Board (*Confirmed by Council*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Francis B. Schley (*Historic Columbus Foundation*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2026, on the Uptown Façade Board (*Confirmed by Council*). Councilor Huff renominated Francis B. Schley to serve another term on the Uptown Façade Board. Councilor Huff made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Chambers, Cogle and Tucker being absent for the vote.

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Uptown Columbus*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2026, on the Uptown Façade Board (*Confirmed by Council*). There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Uptown Business Improvement District*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2026, on the Uptown Façade Board (*Confirmed by Council*). There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Uptown Business Improvement District*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2027, on the Uptown Façade Board (*Confirmed by Council*). There were none.

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

A. PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION:

A nominee for the seat of Joshua W. Ferguson (*Eligible*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2026, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 2 – Davis*). Councilor Davis renominated Joshua W. Ferguson to serve another term on the Public Safety Advisory Commission. Councilor Davis made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Chambers, Cogle and Tucker being absent for the vote.

A nominee for the vacant seat of District 3 Representative for a term that expires on October 31, 2028, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 3 – Huff*). There were none.

A nominee for the vacant seat of District 4 Representative for a term that expires on October 31, 2026, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 4 – Tucker*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Mitch Watkins (*Eligible*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2026, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 6 – Allen*). Mayor Pro Tem Allen renominated Mitch Watkins to serve another term on the Public Safety Advisory Commission. Councilor Cook made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Chambers, Cogle and Tucker being absent for the vote.

A nominee for the seat of David Horiuchi (*Eligible*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2026, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 8 – Garrett*). Councilor Garrett renominated David Horiuchi to serve another term on the Public Safety Advisory Commission. Councilor Garrett made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Chambers, Cogle and Tucker being absent for the vote.

A nominee for the seat of Sarah E. Maglione (*Eligible*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2026, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 10 – Chambers*). There were none.

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

A. ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:

A nominee for a vacant seat for a term that expires on April 11, 2028, on the Animal Control Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Ethelyn W. Riley (*Eligible*) for a term that expired on April 11, 2026, on the Animal Control Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Crabb renominated Ethelyn W. Riley to serve another term on the Animal Control Advisory Board.

A nominee for the seat of Karen D. Gaskins (*Eligible*) for a term that expired on April 11, 2026, on the Animal Control Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Crabb renominated Karen D. Gaskins to serve another term on the Animal Control Advisory Board.

A nominee for the seat of Dr. Jo A. Brown (*Georgia Licensed Veterinarian/Licensed Veterinarian Tech*) for a term that expired on October 15, 2026, on the Animal Control Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Huff renominated Dr. Jo A. Brown to serve another term on the Animal Control Advisory Board.

B. BOARD OF HEALTH:

A nominee for the seat of Yasmine Cathright (*Not Eligible*) with the term that expired on December 31, 2025, on the Board of Health (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

C. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

A nominee for a vacant seat for a term that expired on March 24, 2026, on the Building Authority of Columbus (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

D. COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND CULTURAL LIAISON ENCOUNTERS (CIRCLE):

A nominee for a vacant seat for a term that expired on March 1, 2026, on the Commission on International Relations and Cultural Liaison Encounters (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

E. LAND BANK AUTHORITY:

A nominee for the seat of S. Carson Cummings (*Eligible*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2026, on the Land Bank Authority (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Crabb renominated S. Carson Cummings to serve another term on the Land Bank Authority.

A nominee for the seat of Walker R. Bickerstaff (*Eligible*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2026, on the Land Bank Authority (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Crabb renominated Walker R. Bickerstaff to serve another term on the Land Bank Authority.

A nominee for the seat of Deidre Tilley (*Eligible*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2026, on the Land Bank Authority (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Crabb renominated Deidre Tilley to serve another term on the Land Bank Authority.

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

A nominee for the seat of Sandra Gill (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term that expired on June 30, 2026, on the New Horizons Behavioral Health – Mental Health, Addictive Diseases and Developmental Disabilities – Community Service Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Nancy Schroeder (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term that expired on June 30, 2026, on the New Horizons Behavioral Health – Mental Health, Addictive Diseases and Developmental Disabilities – Community Service Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

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.

G. PERSONNEL REVIEW BOARD:

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Alternate Member 1*) for a term that expires on December 31, 2027, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Alternate Member 2*) for a term that expires on December 31, 2027, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Alternate Member 3*) for a term that expires on December 31, 2027, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Delano Leftwich (*Not Eligible – Alternate Member 4*) for a term that expired on December 31, 2025, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

H. RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD:

A nominee for a vacant seat for a term that expires on December 31, 2026, on the Recreation Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

I. REGION SIX REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES:

A nominee for the seat of Dr. Janet C. Bussey (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term that expires on June 30, 2026, on the Region Six Regional Advisory Council for Department of Behavioral Health & Development Disabilities (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

J. TREE BOARD:

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Residential Development*) for a term that expires on December 31, 2026, on the Tree Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Commercial or Industrial Development*) for a term that expires on December 31, 2026, on the Tree Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Public Utility Representative*) for a term that expires on July 1, 2028, on the Tree Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

PUBLIC AGENDA (continued)

10. Mr. Henry Gaillard, Re: ADA Assistance for a Columbus Resident. ***No Action Taken***

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Henderson entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation, potential litigation and security as requested by City Attorney Fay. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Cook and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Cogle and Tucker being absent for the vote, and the time being 12:29 p.m.

The Regular Meeting was reconvened at 12:42 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in Executive Session to discuss personnel; however, there were no votes taken.

ADD-ON RESOLUTION

Resolution (370-26) - A resolution authorizing a payment of \$42,500 to settle claims filed by Rowena Platt. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cook and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Cogle and Tucker being absent for the vote.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – DISTRICT 1 TOWN HALL MEETING:

Councilor Barnes announced a town hall meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2026, from 5:30–7:00 p.m. at the City Services Center and invited the public to attend.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Garrett to adjourn the October 13, 2026, Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Cogle and Tucker being absent for the vote, and the time being 12:43 p.m.

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