

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	FY27 Sec. 5307 and Sec. 5339 Annual Grant Applications for Capital and Planning Assistance
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to submit a grant application and, if awarded, accept funding from the Federal Transit Administration’s Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 Formula Grant Program for Capital and Planning Assistance in an amount up to \$2,696,849, or as otherwise awarded, and amend the Transportation Fund by the amount of the grant award. Approval is also requested to submit a grant application and, if awarded, accept funds from the Federal Transit Administration’s Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5339 Formula Grant Program for Capital Assistance in an amount up to \$279,031 or as otherwise awarded, and amend the Transportation Fund by the amount of the grant award. Both grants require a 20% local match.
INITIATED BY:	Department of Transportation/METRA

Recommendations: Approval is requested to submit a grant application and, if awarded, accept funding from the Federal Transit Administration’s Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 Formula Grant Program for Capital and Planning Assistance in an amount up to \$2,696,849, or as otherwise awarded, and amend the Transportation Fund by the amount of the grant award. Approval is also requested to submit a grant application and, if awarded, accept funds from the Federal Transit Administration’s Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5339 Formula Grant Program for Capital Assistance in an amount up to \$279,031 or as otherwise awarded, and amend the Transportation Fund by the amount of the grant award. Both grants require a 20% local match.

Background: The City has applied for federally funded transit capital and planning grants since 1972. FTA Section 5307 and Section 5339 are annual formula grants that require a 20% local match. Local match funding for FY27 5307 and 5339 is budgeted and available in the Transportation Fund. METRA utilizes this funding to meet annual capital and planning commitments in order to benefit public transit in Columbus.

Analysis: Funding is projected to be:

FY 2027 Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 and 5339 Formula Grant Program

FY27 Grant	City (20%) - TSLPOST	FTA (80%)	Total (100%)
5307 Capital & Planning	\$674,212	\$2,696,849	\$3,371,061
5339 Capital	\$69,758	\$279,031	\$348,789

Financial Considerations: If the City does not apply for the grant funding requested, then Columbus would turn down a total of \$2,975,880 in federal funds to support public transportation in our community. FTA Section 5307 and Section 5339 are annual formula grants that require a 20% local match.

The required local match funding for FY27 Sec. 5307 and Sec. 5339 is budgeted and available in the Transportation Fund.

Legal Considerations: The intent to apply for a Federal Transit Grant (FTA) grant, along with a listing of the program of projects, must be advertised in a local newspaper. A resolution from Council must be submitted with the application to FTA, authorizing the grant application and authorizing the City to enter into a contract with the Federal Transit Administration. The resolution must identify the source of the required local matching funds.

Recommendation/Action: Approval is requested to submit a grant application and, if awarded, accept funding from the Federal Transit Administration's Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 Formula Grant Program for Capital and Planning Assistance in an amount up to \$2,696,849, or as otherwise awarded, and amend the Transportation Fund by the amount of the grant award. Approval is also requested to submit a grant application and, if awarded, accept funds from the Federal Transit Administration's Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5339 Formula Grant Program for Capital Assistance in an amount up to \$279,031 or as otherwise awarded, and amend the Transportation Fund by the amount of the grant award. Both grants require a 20% local match.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION AND, IF AWARDED, ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION'S TITLE 49 U.S.C. SECTION 5307 FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM FOR CAPITAL AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$2,696,849, OR AS OTHERWISE AWARDED, AND AMEND THE TRANSPORTATION FUND BY THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANT AWARD. METRA IS ALSO AUTHORIZED TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND, IF AWARDED, ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION'S TITLE 49 U.S.C. SECTION 5339 FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM FOR CAPITAL ASSISTANCE IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$279,031 OR AS OTHERWISE AWARDED, AND AMEND THE TRANSPORTATION FUND BY THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANT AWARD.

WHEREAS, under Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 and Section 5339, the Secretary of the Department of Transportation of the United States (USDOT) is authorized to make grants for mass transit planning and capital improvement; and,

WHEREAS, the Columbus Department of Transportation/METRA is the designated recipient of these transit funds; and,

WHEREAS, the City owns and operates the Columbus Department of Transportation/METRA, the public transit operator in Columbus, Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, the City may apply to FTA for an assistance contract covering up to eighty percent (80%) of the eligible planning and capital improvement expenses; and,

WHEREAS, such contracts will impose certain obligations upon the City, including the provision of the local share of project costs; and,

WHEREAS, the local match for these projects will be funded with Transportation Investment Act (TIA) funds; and,

WHEREAS, the FY 2027 shares for these programs are projected to be:

FY 2027 Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 & Section 5339 Formula Grant Programs

FY27 Grant	City (20%)	FTA (80%)	Total (100%)
5307 Capital & Planning	\$674,212	\$2,696,849	\$3,371,061
5339 Capital	\$69,758	\$279,031	\$348,789

WHEREAS, in connection with the filing of an application for assistance under the Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 and Section 5339, USDOT requires, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that the applicant give an assurance that they will comply with Title VI and all USDOT requirements thereunder; and,

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the City to implement a disadvantage businesses enterprise (DBE) program pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 26, as amended by the USDOT Interim Final Rule issued October 3, 2025, and the DBE IFR FAQs issued December 1, 2025.

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

(1)

That METRA is authorized to apply on behalf of the City for FY 2027 Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 capital and planning financial assistance and for FY 2027 Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5339 capital assistance;

(2)

That METRA is authorized to execute contracts in accordance with FY 2027 expenses and on behalf of the City with FTA and for the purpose of receiving FTA funds should the applications be approved;

(3)

That the City gives assurance that, should such a contract be executed, it is the intent of the Council to commit its local share of capital, planning, and operating costs under the FY 2027 Program of Projects;

(4)

That METRA is authorized to execute (or to delegate to the Department of Transportation/METRA) and file with such application any assurance or other documents required by USDOT or FTA in connection with the application, including any assurance concerning the purpose of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964;

(5)

That the Department of Transportation/METRA is authorized to furnish such additional information as may be required in connection with the application, and to requisition federal or state funds to reimburse the City for eligible expenses under any resulting grant contract; and

(6)

That the DBE Coordinator, as the DBE Liaison Officer for the City, is authorized to establish and administer DBE policies in compliance with 49 C.F.R. Part 26, as amended by the USDOT Interim Final Rule issued October 3, 2025, and the DBE IFR FAQs issued December 1, 2025.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the ____ day of _____ 2026 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