

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| TO: | Mayor and Councilors |
| AGENDA SUBJECT: | Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (H.E.A.T.) Grant |
| AGENDA SUMMARY: | Approval is requested to submit an application and, if approved, accept funds from the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety for Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (H.E.A.T.) Grant for traffic enforcement and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund (or applicable fund) by the amount of the grant awarded. The grant amount requested is \$335,000.00, or otherwise awarded, to be used to enforce traffic laws that concern aggressive driving, DUI, speeding, etc. to reduce the traffic fatalities within Muscogee County. |
| INITIATED BY: | Muscogee County Sheriff's Office |

Recommendation: Approval is requested to submit an application and, if approved, accept funds from the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety for Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (H.E.A.T.) Grant for traffic enforcement and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund (or applicable fund) by the amount of the grant awarded. The grant amount requested is \$335,000.00, or otherwise awarded, to be used to enforce traffic laws that concern aggressive driving, DUI, speeding, etc. to reduce the traffic fatalities within Muscogee County.

Background: Traffic Data has shown that Columbus, Muscogee County has a disproportionate number of vehicle fatalities. This grant will fund three (3) full-time deputies to enforce the traffic laws, that concern aggressive driving, Driving Under the Influence, Speeding, etc. to reduce the number of fatalities in Muscogee County.

Analysis: The HEAT Unit will enforce traffic laws, educate citizens on the importance of seatbelts, child restraint devices, consequences of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, and will assist other agencies in the State of Georgia to do the same. The goal is to reduce the number of vehicle fatalities which leads to a better quality of life for the motoring public and their families.

Financial Considerations: The grant amount requested is \$335,000.00 for the Muscogee County Sheriff's Office. The City is not required to provide matching funds to participate in this grant.

Legal Considerations: The Consolidated Government of Columbus is eligible to receive the funds.

Recommendation: Approval is requested to submit an application and, if approved, accept funds from the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety for Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (H.E.A.T.) Grant for traffic enforcement and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund (or applicable fund) by the amount of the grant awarded. The grant amount requested is \$335,000.00, or otherwise awarded, to be used to enforce traffic laws that concern aggressive driving, DUI, speeding, etc. to reduce the traffic fatalities within Muscogee County.

RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT A GRANT OF \$ 335,000.00, OR AS OTHERWISE AWARDED, FROM THE GEORGIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY HIGHWAY ENFORCEMENT OF AGGRESSIVE TRAFFIC (H.E.A.T.) GRANT, WITH NO LOCAL MATCH REQUIREMENT, AND AMEND THE MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL FUND BY THE AMOUNT REWARDED. THE FUNDS WILL BE UTILIZED TO ENFORCE TRAFFIC LAWS THAT CONCERN AGGRESSIVE DRIVING, DUI, SPEEDING, ETC., TO REDUCE FATALITIES WITHIN MUSCOGEE COUNTY.

WHEREAS, aggressive driving, DUI, and speeding have adversely affected the quality in Muscogee County; and,

WHEREAS, the Muscogee County Sheriff's Office has been approved by the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (H.E.A.T.) Grant to receive \$335,000 of grant monies; and,

WHEREAS, the enforcement of aggressive driving, DUI and speeding will save lives; and,

WHEREAS, the goal of this strategy is to reduce traffic accident fatalities, thereby improving quality of life and public safety; and

WHEREAS, the funds have been allocated through the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (H.E.A.T.) Grant; and,

WHEREAS, this grant proposal requires Deputies dedicated to the highway enforcement of aggressive traffic, with no matching funds required.

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

1. That the City Manager is hereby authorized to apply for and accept the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (H.E.A.T.) Grant of \$335,000 or as otheiwise awarded.
2. Amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by \$335,000, or the actual amount funded.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____, 2024 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Councilor Allen voting | _____. |
| Councilor Chambers voting | _____. |
| Councilor Cogle voting | _____. |
| Councilor Crabb voting | _____. |
| Councilor Davis voting | _____. |
| Councilor Garrett voting | _____. |
| District 1 voting | _____. |
| Councilor Huff voting | _____. |
| Councilor Thomas voting | _____. |
| Councilor Tucker voting | _____. |

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor

