

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Cancer Screening Kits for Fire & EMS Department
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council approve the purchase of 275 (Two Hundred Seventy-Five) cancer screening kits and accessories from 20/20 GeneSystems, Inc., (Gaithersburg, MD), in the amount of \$30,485.00. It is also requested that Council approve additional purchases of the cancer screening kits from the vendor.

The Fire & EMS Department began cancer screening for firefighters in 2023. Cancer is now the number one cause of firefighter deaths. Fires now burn faster, hotter and produce far more dangerous/carcinogenic smoke than in the past due to the synthetics used today in everything people purchase. The age for cancer diagnosis in firefighters has gone from 60 to 50 to now in their 40's. The cancer screening kits are part of the department's overall cancer initiative to find cancer early when it is treatable and survivable and has less of a financial impact for the City.

The vendor, 20/20 GeneSystems, Inc., is the manufacturer of a protein biomarker blood test for cancer screening and holds two patents for the test. Protein biomarkers can change over time with continued exposures to carcinogens. With this testing program in place the department will be able to obtain baseline measurements and then have the means to compare results during yearly testing. These screening kits will allow the department to perform their own in-house blood draws for cancer screening and can be conducted during their in-house physicals or at any other time. Since the vendor holds the patent for the screening kits; the vendor is considered the only known source per the Procurement Ordinance, Article 3-114

Funds are budgeted in the FY25 Budget: General Fund – Fire & EMS – Fire & EMS Special Operations – Pre-Employment Physicals; 0101 – 410 – 2600 – SPCO – 6324. Funds will be budgeted in the appropriate fiscal year for additional purchases of the cancer screening kits from the vendor.

A RESOLUTION

NO._____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 275 (TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE) CANCER SCREENING KITS AND ACCESSORIES FROM 20/20 GENESYSTEMS, INC., (GAITHERSBURG, MD), IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,485.00; AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL PURCHASES OF THE CANCER SCREENING KITS FROM THE VENDOR.

WHEREAS, the Fire & EMS Department began cancer screening for firefighters in 2023. Cancer is now the number one cause of firefighter deaths. Fires now burn faster, hotter and produce far more dangerous/carcinogenic smoke than in the past due to the synthetics used today in everything people purchase. The age for cancer diagnosis in firefighters has gone from 60 to 50 to now in their 40's. The cancer screening kits are part of the department's overall cancer initiative to find cancer early when it is treatable and survivable and has less of a financial impact for the City; and,

WHEREAS, the vendor, 20/20 GeneSystems, Inc., is the manufacturer of a protein biomarker blood test for cancer screening and holds two patents for the test. Protein biomarkers can change over time with continued exposures to carcinogens. With this testing program in place the department will be able to obtain baseline measurements and then have the means to compare results during yearly testing. These screening kits will allow the department to perform their own in-house blood draws for cancer screening and can be conducted during their in-house physicals or at any other time. Since the vendor holds the patent for the screening kits: the vendor is considered the only known source per the Procurement Ordinance, Article 3-114

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

That the City Manager and/or his designee is hereby authorized to purchase 275 (Two Hundred Seventy-Five) cancer screening kits and accessories from 20/20 GeneSystems, Inc., (Gaithersburg, MD), in the amount of \$30,485.00. The City Manager and/or his designee is further authorized to purchase additional cancer screening kits from the vendor. Funds are budgeted in the FY25 Budget: General Fund – Fire & EMS – Fire & EMS Special Operations – Pre-Employment Physicals; 0101 – 410 – 2600 – SPCO – 6324. Funds will be budgeted in the appropriate fiscal year for future purchases of the cancer screening kits.

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 _____
Council District 1 Seat voting _____
Councilor Chambers voting _____

Councilor Cogle voting _____
Councilor Crabb voting _____
Councilor Davis voting _____
Councilor Garrett voting _____
Councilor Huff voting _____
Councilor Thomas voting _____
Councilor Tucker voting _____

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor