

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Chips4Chips Funding Support
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Development Authority to support the Chips4Chips Initiative for up to \$1,250,000.
INITIATED BY:	City Manager's Office

Recommendation: Approval is requested to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Development Authority to support the Chips4Chips (C4C) Initiative for up to \$1,250,000.

Background: Chips4Chips, the Chattahoochee Hub for Innovation and Production of Semiconductors began in 2022 from a Senate office email discussing the opportunities presented by the \$280 billion CHIPS (Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors) and Science Act. The first group of stakeholders started in September 2022 in the concept of creating a regional technology hub for semiconductors and other advanced manufacturing in the Chattahoochee Valley, as a part of the United Way's Poverty Reduction Initiative. Through extensive outreach, research, evaluation, and expert confirmation, the opportunity has been developed and validated. The C4C team has collaborated with federal, state, and local officials, as well as consulting assets and potential private industry manufacturing partners.

Analysis: The Chattahoochee Valley has abundant natural and human resources representing key requirements necessary for supporting a profitable and expansive semiconductor industry. The technology cluster includes Fort Moore (the 5th largest military installation in the world), Raytheon/Pratt Whitney, Global Payments, Auburn University, Columbus State University, and many other companies and institutions, as well as the corporate headquarters of Aflac, Synovus Bank, the W.C. Bradley Company. There are over 200 volunteers across more than 60 organizations committed to the effort.

Financial Considerations: Funding is available in the Economic Development Fund Reserves to provide up to \$1.25 million to support this initiative.

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

Recommendation/Action: Approval is requested to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Development Authority to support the Chips4Chips Initiative for up to \$1,250,000.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, TO AUTHORIZE THE DEVELOPMENT A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE COLUMBUS CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO SUPPORT THE CHIPS4CHIPS INITIATIVE FOR UP TO \$1.25 MILLION.

WHEREAS, a group of stakeholders in the Chattahoochee Valley engaged in the concept of creating a regional technology hub for semiconductor and other advanced manufacturing spurred by the opportunity presented by the \$280 billion CHIPS (Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors) and Science Act; and,

WHEREAS, the team as part of the United Way’s Poverty Reduction Initiative has done extensive outreach, research, evaluation, and expert confirmation to validate this opportunity; and,

WHEREAS, the Chattahoochee Valley has abundant natural and human resources representing the key requirements necessary for supporting a profitable and expansive semiconductor industry; and,

WHEREAS, the Chips4Chips Leadership has developed an \$11 million budget to address the action items in the plan; and,

WHEREAS, the Chattahoochee Valley has many companies and institutions aligned to support this endeavor; 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 development of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Development Authority for up to \$1.25 million in support of the Chips4Chips initiative and further authorizes the use of the Economic Development Fund Reserves of up to \$1.25 million.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the _____ day of _____ September 2023 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ten members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Barnes voting	_____.
Councilor Begly 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