

C.M. 12-11-18(6)
458-18

A RESOLUTION
NO. 58-18

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF 318 10TH AVENUE (020 016 006) FROM THE STATE OF GEORGIA AND SUBMIT AN EPA GRANT APPLICATION FOR UP TO \$500,000 AND IF APPROVED, ACCEPT AND AMEND THE MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL FUND FOR THE AWARDED AMOUNT.

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia owns the property located at 318 10th Avenue (020 016 006) and has offered to quit claim this property to the City; and,

WHEREAS, the property is currently an abandoned Farmers Market, and the City received a request from the Riverdale-Porterdale Cemetery Foundation, Inc. to clean-up the site and turn it into a park that connects Riverdale and Porterdale Cemeteries at no cost to the City; and,

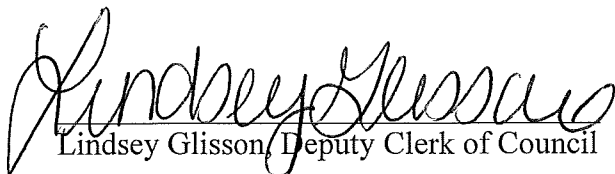
WHEREAS, environmental contaminants were found on the site, and the City has the opportunity to apply for an EPA clean-up grant that could assist with the clean-up if the property is acquired by January 31, 2019.

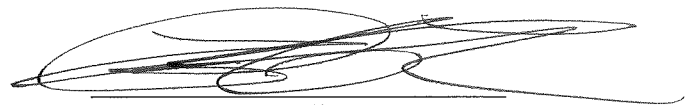
NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

The City Manager is authorized to accept the property located at 318 10th Avenue from the State of Georgia and submit an EPA grant application for up to \$500,000 and if approved, accept and amend the Multi-governmental Fund for the awarded amount.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the 11th day of December, 2018 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ten members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	<u>YES</u> .
Councilor Baker voting	<u>YES</u> .
Councilor Barnes voting	<u>YES</u> .
Councilor Davis voting	<u>YES</u> .
Councilor Garrett voting	<u>YES</u> .
Councilor House voting	<u>YES</u> .
Councilor Huff voting	<u>YES</u> .
Councilor Thomas voting	<u>YES</u> .
Councilor Turner Pugh voting	<u>YES</u> .
Councilor Woodson voting	<u>YES</u> .


Lindsey Glisson, Deputy Clerk of Council


Teresa Pike Tomlinson, Mayor

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting**

December 11, 2018

Agenda Report # 75

TO: Mayor and Councilors

SUBJECT: Acceptance of State Farmers Market property located at 318 10th Avenue

INITIATED BY: Community Reinvestment Department

Recommendation: Approval is requested to accept the property located at 318 10th Avenue (020 016 006) from the State of Georgia and also to submit an EPA grant for up to \$500,000 and if approved, accept and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund for the awarded amount.

Background: The property located at 318 10th Avenue is an abandoned Farmers Market owned by the State of Georgia. The State of Georgia wishes to quit claim these properties to the Columbus Consolidated Government. On December 1, 2017, the City received a letter from the Riverdale-Porterdale Cemetery Foundation, Inc. requesting that we partner with them in acquiring this property to be used as a park that would connect Riverdale Cemetery to Porterdaled Cemetery. They would also like to eventually construct a columbarium on the site. The letter states that the Columbus Consolidated Government will have no financial obligation for the proposed improvements which will be paid for by the foundation.

Since the receipt of this letter we have been working to obtain title work and conducting environmental site assessments on the property. The environmental testing showed the presence of contaminants such as lead, asbestos, petroleum and underground storage tanks. We currently have the opportunity apply for a clean-up grant through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) which could provide up to \$500,000 towards cleaning up this site. If the City decides to pursue this grant, there is a 20% match that could be paid for utilizing CDBG funds. The grant application is due on January 31, 2019, and the City would need to have title to the property prior to submitting the application. If the grant is awarded the clean-up process would begin towards the end of 2019.

Analysis: Acceptance of this property will allow the City to apply for a grant which will assist with the elimination of blight and turn the property into a park/greenspace area that will connect the cemeteries.

Financial Considerations: The property will be quit claimed to City at no cost. The Riverdale-Porterdale Cemetery Foundation has stated they will pay for the property improvements. If awarded the grant from EPA, the City could provide a match utilizing CDBG funding.

Legal Considerations: Council must approve all real estate transactions.

Recommendations: Approve a resolution to accept the property located at 318 10th Avenue (020 016 006) from the State of Georgia and also to submit an EPA grant for up to \$500,000 and if approved, accept and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund for the awarded amount.