

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	2023 Brownfield Multipurpose Grant
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund up to \$1,000,000 for an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield Multipurpose Grant. The grant funding will be utilized to conduct Brownfield Assessments of properties and cleanup activities within Bibb Mill and South Columbus.
INITIATED BY:	Community Reinvestment

Recommendation: Approval is requested to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund up to \$1,000,000 for an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield Multipurpose Grant. The grant funding will be utilized to conduct Brownfield Assessments of properties and cleanup activities within Bibb Mill and South Columbus.

Background: On October 24, 2023, City Council approved the submission of a rewrite of an Environmental Protection Agency Brownfield assessment and Cleanup Grant award through resolution 395-23. If awarded the Brownfield Assessment Grant would provide up to \$500,000 to conduct environmental studies and perform hazardous cleanup activities on properties located within Columbus, Georgia.

The assessment will provide the City with information on the environmentally contaminated properties that exist within the boundaries along the industrial areas of Bibb Mill and South Columbus, as well as provide resources to mitigate potential hazards. This plan is important in order for the properties to be redeveloped for future uses. In addition to authorizing the submission, Resolution 395-23 also approved amending the multi-governmental fund by \$500,000.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced the FY 2024 Brownfield Assessment and Cleanup Grant Awards. Community Reinvestment was notified that the City of Columbus was selected as a recipient of the grant. The City of Columbus has received \$1,000,000, which exceeded the amount originally approved.

Analysis: The City was awarded \$1,000,000 to conduct assessments of the properties within Bibb Mill and South Columbus to determine how many may be environmentally impacted. The report will be a useful tool for redevelopment purposes. On the back end of the funding, it could be used to potentially remediate some of the potentially identified environmentally contaminated properties.

Financial Considerations: There will be no financial impact. There are no match requirements for this grant.

Legal Considerations: The City Attorney will review all grant agreements prior to obtaining the City Manager's signature.

Recommendation/Action: Approve the attached Resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept, and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The grant funding will be utilized to conduct Brownfield Assessments of properties and cleanup activities within Bibb Mill and South Columbus.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE AND AMENDMENT OF THE MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL FUND BY THE AMOUNT AWARDED FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA). THE GRANT FUNDING WILL BE UTILIZED TO CONDUCT BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENTS OF PROPERTIES AND CLEANUP ACTIVITIES WITHIN BIBB MILL AND SOUTH COLUMBUS.

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced awards for the FY 2024 Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Grants; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Columbus was awarded \$1,000,000 to conduct environmental studies and cleanup activities on properties located within Columbus, Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, the grant funds will assist the City in developing a plan for the remediation of environmentally contaminated properties so these properties can be redeveloped for future uses.

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

The City Manager is authorized to accept and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to conduct a Brownfield Assessment of properties located within Columbus, Georgia.

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 _____.
- Councilor Hickey voting _____.
- Councilor Huff voting _____.
- Councilor Thomas voting _____.
- Councilor Tucker voting _____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor