

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	FFY 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending Request for Funding to Acquire Ten (10) electric non-CDL <30-Ft. Paratransit Buses and Ten (10) Bus Charging Stations.
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested for the City Manager to accept, if awarded, and amend the Transportation Fund by an amount up to \$4,800,000 in funding from FFY 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) offered through the Office of Senator Raphael Warnock. The funding requires a 20% match in an amount up to \$1,200,000. Available Transportation Local Option Sales Tax (T-SPLOST) funds will be used for the match. Funding will be utilized to acquire ten (10) electric non-CDL <30-Ft. paratransit buses and ten (10) bus charging stations for METRA.
INITIATED BY:	Department of Transportation/METRA

Recommendation: Approval is recommended for the City Manager to accept, if awarded, and amend the Transportation Fund by an amount up to \$4,800,000 in funding from FFY 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) offered through the Office of Senator Raphael Warnock. The funding requires a 20% match in an amount up to \$1,200,000. Available Transportation Local Option Sales Tax (T-SPLOST) funds will be used for the match. Funding will be utilized to acquire ten (10) electric non-CDL <30-Ft. paratransit buses and ten (10) bus charging stations for METRA.

Background: The Office of Senator Raphael Warnock announced a request for applications for FFY 2024 CDS projects. This funding opportunity requires a 20% match which will be allocated from available Transportation Local Option Sales Tax (T-SPLOST) funds. METRA would like to apply for \$4,800,000 in CDS funding and use \$1,200,000 available in T-SPLOST for the required match. The proposed funding will be used acquire ten (10) electric non-CDL <30-Ft. paratransit buses and ten (10) bus charging stations for METRA.

Analysis: If awarded, the City would receive up to \$4,800,000 in CDS funding to acquire ten (10) electric non-CDL <30-Ft. paratransit buses and ten (10) bus charging stations for METRA. Electric buses are needed to assist METRA in meeting the federal target of a 50 percent reduction in emissions by 2030.

Financial Considerations: Up to \$1,200,000 is available in T-SPLOST and will be used for the required match. Funding is received on a reimbursable basis.

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

Recommendation/Action: Approval is recommended to accept, if awarded, and amend the Transportation Fund by an amount up to \$4,800,000 in FFY 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS).

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT, IF AWARDED, AND AMEND THE TRANSPORTATION FUND BY AN AMOUNT UP TO \$4,800,000 IN FUNDING FROM FFY 2024 CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING.

WHEREAS, the Office of Senator Raphael Warnock has requested the submission of Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) projects for FFY 2024; and,

WHEREAS, CDS projects are high-impact projects located in Georgia that can be jumpstarted or reach completion with the assistance from the Federal Government; and,

WHEREAS, METRA submits for consideration a request for funding up to \$4,800,000 in FFY 2024 CDS; and,

WHEREAS, if awarded, these funds will be used to acquire ten (10) electric non-CDL <30-Ft. paratransit buses, and ten (10) bus charging stations for METRA.; and,

WHEREAS, the funding requires a 20% match that will be allocated from available Transportation Local Option Sales Tax (T-SPLOST) funds by an amount up to \$1,200,000.

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

The City Manager is authorized to accept, if awarded, and amend the Transportation Fund by an amount up to \$4,800,000 in FFY 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending.

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

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Barnes voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle Voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor House voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, Mayor