Columbus Consolidated Government Council Meeting
Agenda Item

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	**Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Great Outdoor Stewardship Program – Chattahoochee River Ecology & Recreation Improvements**
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant in the amount up to $3,000,000.00, or as otherwise awarded, from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program for improvements to the historic power channel and the ecological health of the Chattahoochee River.
INITIATED BY:	**City Manager's Office**

Recommendation: Approval is requested to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant in the amount up to $3,000,000.00, or as otherwise awarded, from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program for improvements to the historic power channel and the ecological health of the Chattahoochee River.

Background: The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program was established during the 2018 legislative session. This program provides a dedicated funding mechanism to support parks and trails and protect and acquire lands critical to wildlife, clean water and outdoor recreation across the State of Georgia.

Analysis: The Whitewater Park is an economic driver for Columbus and the region. The public private partnership continues to support enhancements to the park and ongoing conservation efforts.

Financial Considerations: The total amount requested is up to $3,00,000.00, with no matching funds required. The city supports this project and up to $1,000,000 in private funds are pledged to complete the project.

Legal Considerations: The Consolidated Government of Columbus is eligible to receive these funds.

Recommendation/Action: Approval is requested to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant in the amount up to $3,000,000.00, or as otherwise awarded, from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program for improvements to the historic power channel and the ecological health of the Chattahoochee River.

RESOLUTION
NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT UP TO $3,000,000.00, OR OTHERWISE AWARDED, FROM THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, GEORGIA OUTDOOR STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM AND AMEND THE MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL FUND BY THE AWARDED AMOUNT.

WHEREAS, Columbus, Georgia is interested in submitting an application for environmental and other improvements to the historic power channel and the ecological health of Chattahoochee River between Frank Martin Bridge and 13th Street Bridge south of Indigo Hotel to Powerhouse; and,

WHEREAS, Columbus, Georgia Consolidated Government ("the City") requests permission to apply for the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program Grant; and,

WHEREAS, the City must be the applicant for the grant; and,

WHEREAS, the City supports this project; and,

WHEREAS, private pledges of $1,000,000 have also been made to support this project.

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

That the City Manager, or his designee, is hereby authorized to submit an application and if awarded, accept a grant in an amount up to $3,000,000.00, or otherwise awarded, from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program for environmental and other improvements to the historic power channel and the ecological health of Chattahoochee River between Frank Martin Bridge and 13th Street Bridge with any local match requirement being made as set forth above by private pledges and to amend the Multi- Governmental Fund if needed by the applicable amount.

_____

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held on the 22nd day of September 2026 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____
Councilor Barnes voting	_____
Councilor Chambers voting	_____
Councilor Cogle voting	_____
Councilor Cook voting	_____
Councilor Crabb voting	_____
Councilor Davis voting	_____
Councilor Garrett voting	_____
Councilor Huff voting	_____
Councilor Tucker voting	_____

_____ _____

Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council B.H. “Skip” Henderson, III, Mayor