

AN ORDINANCE

NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGETS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2026, FOR CERTAIN FUNDS OF THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, APPROPRIATING AMOUNTS SHOWN IN EACH FUND FOR VARIOUS ACTIVITIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1.

1. The General Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$221,670,697 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$7,207,432 to \$228,878,129 and the revenue budget in amount of \$207,895,047 is hereby increased by \$1,024,708 to \$208,919,755 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
2. The Other Local Option Sales Tax Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$49,245,117 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$6,536,298 to \$55,781,415 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
3. The Stormwater (Sewer) Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$7,091,505 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$840 to \$7,092,345 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
4. The Paving Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$20,501,010 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$840,252 to \$21,341,262 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
5. The Community Care Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$12,731,967 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$6,249 to \$12,738,216 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
6. The Integrated Waste Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$18,637,447 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$513,398 to \$19,150,845 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
7. The Emergency Telephone Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$4,325,167 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$12,941 to \$4,338,108 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
8. The Community Development Block Grant Fund expenditure and revenue budget in the amount of \$1,812,296 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$1,362,634 to \$3,174,930 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
9. The HOME Program Fund expenditure and revenue budget in the amount of \$4,018,227 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$2,943,519 to \$6,961,746 for the departments listed on the attached chart.

10. The Multi-Governmental Fund expenditure and revenue budget in the amount of \$7,446,062 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$260,294 to \$7,706,356 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
11. The American Rescue Plan Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$15,412,226 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$11,255,373 to \$26,667,599 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
12. The Sheriff Forfeiture Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$300,000 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$10,575 to \$310,575 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
13. The 2nd Avenue/City Village Mill District Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$800,000 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$2,600,000 to \$3,400,000 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
14. The Bond and Lease Purchase Pool Fund expenditure budgets in the amount of \$0 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$3,157,407 to \$3,157,407 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
15. The Metra Transportation Fund expenditure and revenue budget in the amount of \$23,584,918 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$7,473,926 to \$31,058,844 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
16. The Trade Center Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$4,721,154 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$803,708 to \$5,524,862 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
17. The Bull Creek Golf Course Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$2,410,041 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$82,914 to \$2,492,955 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
18. The Oxbow Creek Golf Course Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$721,000 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$13,880 to \$734,880 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
19. The Civic Center Fund expenditure budget in the amount of \$6,521,513 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby increased by \$1,431,936 to \$7,953,449 and the revenue budget in the amount of \$6,521,513 is hereby increased by \$398,221 to \$6,919,734 for the departments listed on the attached chart.
20. The following position changes are hereby adopted as part of the FY26 Mid-Year Budget Amendment and are as follows:

RECLASSIFICATION:

- Parks & Recreation – One (1) Community Engagement Coordinator - G116 to One (1) Community Engagement Coordinator G121 (Budget Neutral Grade Change Only Effective 01/01/2026)

21. Section 25 of Columbus Ordinance No. 25-026 is hereby modified to insert the following:

- In recognition of the abolishment of local supplements for the Superior Court Judges of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit pursuant to 2025 House Bill 85, locality pay is hereby established at a pro-rata cost share of 54.3% for Muscogee County. The Muscogee County locality pay pro-rata percentage is fixed and is only applicable to locality pay as authorized by O.C.G.A. 15-6-29.2.
- Effective January 1, 2026, discretionary funds in the amount of \$100,000 will be provided annually to the Office of the Solicitor General for recruitment and retention of attorneys in the Solicitor General's Office.
- Effective January 1, 2026, a 1% pay adjustment for classified part-time positions is hereby adopted in concurrence with the 1% market adjustment to the General Government and Public Safety Pay Scales.

22. Section 36 of Columbus Ordinance No. 25-026 is hereby deleted in its entirety, and a new Section 36 is inserted to read as follows::

Columbus Ordinance No. 24-027 authorized a \$2,500.00 pay adjustment for existing full-time Sworn Officers at the Muscogee County Prison. Public Safety Officers hired at the Muscogee County Prison before and/or after said effective date in Ordinance 24-027 are not eligible for the \$2,500.00 pay adjustment until obtaining 24 months of employment and at the conclusion of any sign-on bonus payouts. Beginning with the onset of the FLSA pay cycle start date of January 31, 2026, an additional \$2,500.00 pay adjustment for existing full-time Sworn Officers at the Muscogee County Prison is hereby authorized. Public Safety Officers hired at the Muscogee County Prison before and/or after January 31, 2026, are not eligible for the additional \$2,500.00 pay adjustment until obtaining 24 months of employment and at the conclusion of any sign-on bonus payouts which shall run in concurrence with the original pay adjustment authorized by Ordinance No. 24-027.

23. Each budget increase provided herein is to be funded with fund balances and various revenue sources of the accounting fund for those funds that are being affected by the stated actions.

24. Within the overall budget limitations, authority is hereby delegated to the City Manager and Mayor, or the Finance Director when acting on the authority delegated by the City Manager or Mayor, to effect such intra-fund transfers of appropriation and revenue anticipation as may be deemed necessary to the effective performance and delivery of services approved herein.

25. The minimum budget requirements set forth in O.C.G.A. Title 36, Chapter 81, are hereby adopted.

SECTION 2.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held on the 13th day of January 2026; introduced a second time at a regular meeting held on the _____ day of January 2026, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Anker	voting _____
Councilor Chambers	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Hickey	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, Mayor