

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	2026 Legislative Agenda Items – Additional Proposed Items
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Consideration is requested of the resolutions for the 2026 Legislative Session of the Georgia General Assembly.
INITIATED BY:	City Manager’s Office

Recommendation: Consideration is requested of the additional proposed resolutions for the 2026 Legislative Session of the Georgia General Assembly.

Background: Each year, elected and appointed officials of the Columbus Consolidated Government develop a list of issues important to the citizens of Columbus that require action by the Local Legislative Delegation. Once approved, a meeting will be held with the Delegation to explain the rationale behind these issues and to solicit their support. The Hometown Connection and Legislative Agenda meeting was held on October 15, 2025.

Analysis: Staff, elected, and appointed officials were asked to present issues they felt were important to the operation of the city government. Research and justification for these issues were presented to the City Manager, and a list was prepared for presentation to the Mayor/Council.

Recommendations/Actions: Consider the attached resolutions.

1. MUSCOGEE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CLERK – SALARIES

The Columbus Council requests that the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce legislation to amend the local act found at Georgia Laws 1984, page 4314. The requested amendment would provide that the salary of the Muscogee County Superior Court Clerk shall be no less than 80% of the state base salary of the superior court judges for the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit or any future judicial circuit that includes Muscogee County. Based upon the terms of office served by the Muscogee County Superior Court Clerk, longevity and cost of living increases shall be added to the salary of the clerk of said court under the same provisions and in the same manner as provided for longevity and cost of living increases pursuant to general law. The salary of the Chief Deputy Clerk appointed pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-6-59 shall be recommended by the Muscogee County Superior Court Clerk and approved in the Clerk of Superior Court's Budget. In no event shall such Chief Deputy Clerk's salary be less than 65% of the base salary of the Muscogee County Superior Court Clerk, excluding any longevity or cost of living increases. *(Request of Councilor Toyia Tucker)*

Explanation:

The salaries for the Muscogee County Superior Court Clerk and Chief Deputy Clerk are established by an Act of the Georgia General Assembly at Georgia Laws 1984, page 4314 ("the Local Act"). The Local Act sets the Muscogee County Superior Court Clerk's salary as follows: "the salary of the clerk of the superior court shall be increased by the amount necessary to equal the salary of the sheriff as computed under said Code section." The salary for the Chief Deputy Clerk is set at \$30,000 per year. The Muscogee County Superior Court Clerk has requested a revision of the salary structure of her office to keep pace with current economic conditions and other similarly situated county superior clerks for a more efficient operation of her office.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

WHEREAS, the salaries for the Muscogee County Superior Court Clerk and Chief Deputy Clerk are established by an Act of the Georgia General Assembly at Georgia Laws 1984, page 4314 (“the Local Act”); and,

WHEREAS, the Local Act requires that the Clerk of Superior Court’s salary shall always be as much as the salary paid the Sheriff as calculated under O.C.G.A. § 15-16-20; and,

WHEREAS, the Local Act set the salary of the Chief Deputy Clerk at no more than \$30,000; and,

WHEREAS, the Clerk of Superior Court has requested a revision of the salary structure in her office to keep pace with current economic conditions and remove the obsolete calculations required by the Local Act; and,

WHEREAS, this Council desires that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce legislation to amend the Local Act to contain the provisions set forth below.

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

We hereby respectfully request that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce legislation to amend the local act found at Georgia Laws 1984, p. 4314 to provide as follows:

1. The salary of the Clerk of Superior Court shall be no less than 80% of the state base salary of the Judges of the Superior Court of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit or any future judicial circuit that includes Muscogee County.
2. The salary of the Chief Deputy Clerk appointed pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-6-59 shall be as recommended by the Clerk and approved in the annual budget by the Columbus Council, but in no event shall it be less than 65% of the base salary of the Superior Court Clerk without longevity or cost of living increases attributed to the Clerk’s years of service.

Let a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of Council to each member of the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the 13th day of January 2026, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of 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 III, Mayor