

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	American Rescue Plan – Project Reallocation
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to authorize the reallocation of available American Rescue Plan funding to the Liberty Theatre HVAC project for \$600,000 for a total allocation of \$950k and the Trade Center HVAC project for \$350,000 for a total allocation of \$2.6 million and to authorize an additional \$600k from the General Fund Reserves for the HARP program.
INITIATED BY:	City Manager’s Office

Recommendation: Approval is requested to authorize the reallocation of available American Rescue Plan funding to the Liberty Theatre HVAC project for \$600,000 for a total allocation of \$950k and the Trade Center HVAC project for \$350,000 for a total allocation of \$2.6 million and to authorize an additional \$600k from the General Fund Reserves for the HARP program.

Background: The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was signed into law on March 11, 2021. It was \$1.9 trillion for economic relief from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding was provided directly to states and local governments. The amount allocated to the City of Columbus/Muscogee County was \$78,482,038. The initial allocation is 50% or \$39,241,019. This amount includes the city allocation of \$20,228,102.50 received on June 7, 2021, and the county allocation of \$19,012,916.50 received on June 14, 2021. The second allocation is \$39,241,019. The amount includes the city allocation of \$20,228,102.50 received on June 9, 2022, and the county allocation of \$19,012,916.50 received on June 16, 2022.

Analysis: The U. S. Treasury issued a Final Rule (IFR) on January 6, 2022, which outlines how the eligible uses of the funds under the Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Funds (SLFRF). Eligible costs must be incurred between March 3, 2021, and December 31, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026. The eligible uses include responding to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts, responding to working performing essential work, revenue replacement for the government, and investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure. The following projects were not implemented and are available for reallocation to eligible projects:

- Substance Abuse Treatment Services = \$750k
- Land Acquisition Cemetery = \$200k
 - Reallocate \$600k to Liberty Theatre HVAC
 - Reallocate \$350k to Trade Center HVAC

The Liberty Theatre allocation will be increased from \$350k to \$950k based on the current plan to replace the system by the city’s on-call contractor, Prime Contractors, Inc. after the roof is replaced and any hazardous materials are removed from the building. The replacement of the HVAC will provide the necessary improvements to prevent the control the air quality in the building. The timeline for replacement is 100 days.

The City desires for provide the Homeowner Accessibility Rehabilitation Program (HARP) with additional funding to make further impact the number of residents served.

Financial Considerations: Available funding remains in projects that were not implemented and need to be reallocated to eligible projects.

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

Recommendation/Action: Approval is requested to authorize the reallocation of available American Rescue Plan funding to the Liberty Theatre HVAC project for \$600,000 for a total allocation of \$950k and the Trade Center HVAC project for \$350,000 for a total allocation of \$2.6 million and to authorize an additional \$600k from the General Fund Reserves for the HARP program.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REALLOCATION OF AVAILABLE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS TO ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) was signed into law on March 11, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, \$1.9 trillion for economic relief from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic was funded; and,

WHEREAS, local and state governments were allocated funding through the ARP; and,

WHEREAS, the Columbus Consolidated Government was allocation \$78,482,038 of which \$40,456,205 is the city allocation and \$38,025,833 is the county; and,

WHEREAS, the CCG has identified the following funding available from projects that were not implemented, and,

- Substance Abuse Treatment Services = \$750k
- Land Acquisition Cemetery = \$200k

WHEREAS, the CCG desires to expand the Homeowner Accessibility Rehabilitation Program (HARP) with an additional allocation of \$600k in order to service more residents.

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

To authorize the reallocation of available American Rescue Plan funding to the Liberty Theatre HVAC project for \$600,000 for a total allocation of \$950k and the Trade Center HVAC project for \$350,000 for a total allocation of \$2.6 million and to authorize an additional \$600k from the General Fund Reserves for the HARP program.

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