

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Oglethorpe Bridge/4th Avenue Replacement Project
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to submit a Resolution requesting GDOT (Georgia Department of Transportation) include ADA sidewalk/multiuse transportation facilities on the proposed new bridge replacing the SR 520/US 280 Bridge over the Chattahoochee River.
INITIATED BY:	Department of Engineering

Recommendation: Approval is requested to submit a Resolution requesting GDOT (Georgia Department of Transportation) include ADA sidewalk/multiuse transportation facilities on the proposed new bridge replacing the SR 520/US 280 Bridge over the Chattahoochee River.

Background: The Oglethorpe Bridge/4th Avenue, currently under design by GDOT is proposed to replace an aging bridge that is at risk of fracture, showing signs of deterioration and does not meet current design standards.

Analysis: GDOT proposes to replace the existing bridge structure in Fiscal Year 2027. The current bridge structure contains elements being used as sidewalks for pedestrians/cyclist to cross between the communities. There are existing foot paths along the roadway on the Alabama/Phenix City side of the bridge and sidewalks in Columbus . Phenix City has future plans to provide connectivity with Multiuse Paths. National and State standards include recommendations for safe routes for all along transportation facilities. This includes, but not limited to, sidewalks and multiuse paths. These type facilities improve mobility and increase physical activity through walking, bicycling, and other forms of exercise.

Financial Considerations: The bridge project is currently funded with Federal and State funds. Estimated project cost to replace the bridge has been estimated at \$34,000,000.00.

Legal Considerations: GDOT has requested formal support by Council for the enhanced transportation project.

Recommendation/Action: Approval is requested to submit a Resolution requesting GDOT (Georgia Department of Transportation) include ADA sidewalk/multiuse transportation facilities on the proposed new bridge replacing the SR 520/US 280 Bridge over the Chattahoochee River.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA REQUESTING SIDEWALKS AND MULTIUSE PATH FACILITIES BE INCLUDED AS PART OF THE REPLACEMENT OF THE SR 520/US280 OGLETHORPE BRIDGE/4TH AVENUE PROJECT.

WHEREAS, the existing river bridge is failing structurally and does not meet current design standards; and,

WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) is currently working on a replacement plan for the bridge that does not include sidewalk or multi-use paths; and,

WHEREAS, current national and state standards have recommendations for alternative transportation considerations be included on transportation projects; and,

WHEREAS, Columbus and Phenix City have current and planned initiatives to expand their sidewalk and multi-use path programs.

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

That the City Manager is authorized to provide a copy of this executed Resolution to the Georgia Department of Transportation(GDOT) as part of a request to include sidewalk and multi-use paths in the design and construction of the replacement bridge over the Chattahoochee River on SR 520/US 280.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the 28th 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, III, Mayor