

**Columbus Consolidated Government  
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Councilors
<b>AGENDA SUBJECT:</b>	<b>2025 Homeland Security GSAR (Georgia Search and Rescue) Grant – Fire/EMS</b>
<b>AGENDA SUMMARY:</b>	Approval is requested to accept a grant in the amount of \$55,230.00 or as otherwise awarded, from the Homeland Security Grant Program, to support the purchase, maintenance, and training associated with equipment utilized by the West Central Georgia Search and Rescue (GSAR) Team, with an amendment made to the Multi-Government Fund by the like amount with no matching funds required.
<b>INITIATED BY:</b>	<b>Fire/EMS</b>

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**Recommendation:** Approval is requested to accept a grant in the amount of \$55,230.00 or as otherwise awarded, from the Homeland Security Grant Program, to support the purchase, maintenance, and training associated with equipment utilized by the West Central Georgia Search and Rescue (GSAR) Team, with an amendment made to the Multi-Government Fund by the like amount with no matching funds required.

**Background:** Funds have been allocated through the 2025 Homeland Security Grant Program to support the purchase, maintenance, and training associated with equipment utilized by the West Central Georgia Search and Rescue (GSAR) Team. This team was established to enhance response capabilities for heavy rescue emergencies affecting the citizens of Columbus and the surrounding counties. Since its formation, the GSAR Team has expanded to include a Type I Swiftwater/Flood Rescue Team and a Type I Structural Collapse Search and Rescue Team.

Search and rescue operations involve locating, rescuing, extricating, and providing initial medical stabilization to victims who are trapped or stranded in life-threatening situations. The GSAR Team is capable of deploying statewide under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) to provide mutual aid to communities in need. The team’s goal is to maintain the ability to respond within four hours to any location within the state.

**Analysis:** The state is providing funds for new rescue equipment and training for the GSAR Team.

**Financial Considerations:** The grant is for equipment amounting to a total of \$55,230.00 with no matching funds required.

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

**Recommendation/Action:** Approval is requested to accept a grant in the amount of \$55,230.00 or as otherwise awarded, from the Homeland Security Grant Program, to support the purchase, maintenance, and training associated with equipment utilized by the West Central Georgia Search and Rescue (GSAR) Team, with an amendment made to the Multi-Government Fund by the like amount with no matching funds required.

**A RESOLUTION  
NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ACCEPT A GRANT FOR EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$55,230.00 OR AS OTHERWISE AWARDED, FROM THE HOMELAND SECURITY GEORGIA SEARCH AND RESCUE (GSAR) GRANT PROGRAM. THESE FUNDS WILL BE UTILIZED FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW RESCUE EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING. THIS TEAM IS FORMED TO IMPROVE RESPONSES TO HEAVY RESCUE AS WELL AS WATER RESCUE EMERGENCIES TO THE CITIZENS OF COLUMBUS AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES**

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus Fire and Emergency Medical Services has been approved by the Governor’s office to fund the Georgia Search and Rescue Team; and,

**WHEREAS** the purchase of new equipment and continuing education training requested in the grant proposal will greatly enhance the current emergency response program; and,

**WHEREAS** the funds have been allocated through the 2025 Homeland Security GSAR Grant Program; and,

**WHEREAS** the equipment will be utilized to respond to heavy rescue and water rescue emergencies in Columbus and the surrounding counties; and,

**WHEREAS** this grant proposal requires no matching funds

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

- 1) That the Mayor or his designee is hereby authorized to accept a Homeland Security GSAR Grant of \$55,230.00 from the 2025 Homeland Security GSAR Grant Program.
- 2) Amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award.

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Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 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	_____.

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Lindsey G. Mclemore, Clerk of Council

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B.H. “Skip” Henderson III, Mayor