

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Gift Cards for Police Department Gun Buyback Program
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council approve the purchase of two hundred (200) gift cards at \$250 each from Kinetic Credit Union, for a total of \$50,000.00, plus service fees (if applicable), for the Police Department sponsored citywide gun buyback program.

The citywide Gun Buyback Program is an initiative of the Columbus Police Department designed to create a safer community and reduce crime. Individuals may surrender guns anonymously at the gun Buyback location. The Gun Buyback staff will provide direction to individuals surrendering guns after discussing their intent to surrender a weapon. Those interested in receiving a gift card, may qualify for a \$250 gift card for handguns, shotguns, and rifles.

The first Gun Buyback event was held April 6, 2022, resulting in over 100 weapons taken off the streets. The success of the first event has prompted the need to schedule another event in the near future.

Each firearm surrendered will be disposed in accordance with Georgia Law. In addition, all other Columbus Police Department firearms, eligible for disposal, will be disposed of in accordance with Georgia Law. All firearms will be sold to a licensed firearm distributor as a credit from the licensed distributor. In return, the Police Department will be able to use the credit to purchase other firearms or available equipment.

Funds are available in the FY22 Budget from CARES Act Reserves as: General Fund - Non-Departmental – Non-Categorical – COVID19 – Supplies; 0101-590-3000-NCAT-6730.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO HUNDRED (200) GIFT CARDS AT \$250 EACH FROM KINETIC CREDIT UNION, FOR A TOTAL OF \$50,000.00, PLUS SERVICE FEES (IF APPLICABLE), FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT SPONSORED CITYWIDE GUN BUYBACK PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the citywide Gun Buyback Program is an initiative of the Columbus Police Department designed to create a safer community and reduce crime. Individuals may surrender guns anonymously at the gun Buyback location. The Gun Buyback staff will provide direction to individuals surrendering guns after discussing their intent to surrender a weapon. Those interested in receiving a gift card, may qualify for a \$250 gift card for handguns, shotguns, and rifles. The date of the Buyback event has yet to be determined; and,

WHEREAS, the first Gun Buyback event was held April 6, 2022, resulting in over 100 weapons taken off the streets. The success of the first event has prompted the need to schedule another event in the near future; and,

WHEREAS, each firearm surrendered will be disposed in accordance with Georgia Law. In addition, all other Columbus Police Department firearms, eligible for disposal, will be disposed of in accordance with Georgia Law. All firearms will be sold to a licensed firearm distributor as a credit from the licensed distributor. In return, the Police Department will be able to use the credit to purchase other firearms or available equipment.

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

That the City Manager is hereby authorized to purchase two hundred (200) gift cards at \$250 each from Kinetic Credit Union, for a total of \$50,000.00, plus service fees (if applicable), for the Police Department sponsored citywide gun buyback program. Funds are available in the FY22 Budget from CARES Act Reserves as: General Fund - Non-Departmental – Non-Categorical – COVID19 – Supplies; 0101-590-3000-NCAT-6730.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____, 2022 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

- Councilor Allen voting _____.
- Councilor Barnes voting _____.
- Councilor Crabb voting _____.
- Councilor Davis voting _____.
- Councilor Garrett voting _____.

Councilor House voting _____.
Councilor Huff voting _____.
Councilor Thomas voting _____.
Councilor Tucker voting _____.
Councilor Woodson voting _____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor