

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Memorandum of Understanding – Columbus/Phenix City Transportation Study and Columbus Consolidated Government
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Columbus-Phenix City Transportation Study (C-PCTS). The C-PCTS serves as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the urbanized area.
INITIATED BY:	Planning Department

Recommendation: Approval is requested to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Columbus-Phenix City Transportation Study (C-PCTS). The C-PCTS serves as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the urbanized area.

Background: The Metropolitan Planning Organization is designated by the Governors of Georgia and Alabama and is housed within the Columbus Department of Planning. The MPO has the primary responsibility for carrying out the urban transportation planning process and developing the planning work program, transportation plan, and transportation improvement program. The MPO is responsible for the following cities/counties: Columbus/Muscogee County, Chattahoochee County and a portion of Harris County in Georgia, along with parts of Lee and Russell Counties in Alabama and the City of Phenix City.

During 2021, Lee County, Alabama along with the County Engineers gave the City of Smiths Station, Alabama ownership of the roads with the city limits of Smiths Station. Therefore, a revised MOU is required to include the City of Smiths Station, Alabama. A MOU was generated between C-PCTS and the cities/counties that are represented by the MPO. The MOU outlines the responsibilities of the MPO and the cities and counties. In 2014, the C-PCTS incorporated a portion of Harris County into the MPO and the MOU was updated to reflect the addition. The 2010 Census data showed a portion of Harris County, Georgia as being in the new Urbanized Area Boundary, which is the reason the MOU was updated.

Analysis: The current Memorandum of Understanding is being updated to include the City of Smiths Station, Alabama into the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Financial Considerations: The C-PCTS is funded with 80% of Federal Funds and 20% of Local funds from the Georgia Department of Transportation and the City of Columbus. The City is responsible for maintaining, preparing, and funding an annual budget for the MPO's operations. C-PCTS receives additional funding from the Alabama Department of Transportation (80%) and the City of Phenix City, Alabama (20%).

Legal Considerations: The Columbus-Phenix City Transportation Study is in compliance with all applicable planning requirements and certifications necessary in order to receive the federal funds.

Recommendation/Action: Approve the resolution authorizing the Mayor of Columbus to execute the Memorandum of Understanding.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE COLUMBUS-PHENIX CITY TRANSPORTATION (C-PCTS) AND THE COLUMBUS CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT TO CARRY OUT TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES FOR THE URBAN AREA.

WHEREAS the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is designated by the Governors of Georgia and Alabama and is housed within the Columbus Department of Planning. The MPO has the primary responsibility for carrying out the urban transportation planning process and of developing the planning work program, transportation plan, and transportation improvement program. The MPO is responsible for the following cities/counties: Columbus/Muscogee County, Chattahoochee County and a portion of Harris County in Georgia, along with parts of Lee and Russell Counties in Alabama and the City of Phenix City; and,

WHEREAS, during 2021, Lee County, Alabama along with the County Engineers gave the City of Smiths Station, Alabama ownership of the roads with the city limits of Smiths Station. Therefore, a revised MOU is required to include the City of Smiths Station, Alabama; and,

WHEREAS a Memorandum of Understanding was generated between C-PCTS and the cities/counties that are represented by the MPO. The MOU outlines the responsibilities of the MPO and the cities and counties. In 2014, the C-PCTS incorporated a portion of Harris County into the MPO and the MOU was updated to reflect the addition. The 2010 Census data showed a portion of Harris County, Georgia as being in the new Urbanized Area Boundary, which is the reason the MOU was updated.

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

That the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between Columbus, Georgia, and the Columbus-Phenix City Transportation Study.

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