

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

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| TO: | Mayor and Councilors |
| AGENDA SUBJECT: | State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Application (NeighborWorks Columbus) |
| AGENDA SUMMARY: | Approval is requested to apply, and if awarded, accept the State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative on behalf of NeighborWorks Columbus by the amount awarded and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded. |
| INITIATED BY: | City Manager's Office |

Recommendation: Approval is requested to apply, and if awarded, accept the State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative on behalf of NeighborWorks Columbus by the amount awarded and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded. The loan/grant funding will be utilized by NeighborWorks Columbus towards workforce housing at Elliott's Walk.

Background: The State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has announced the newly established Rural Workforce Housing Initiative. It is meant to spur the development of critically needed workforce housing across the state. NeighborWorks Columbus is interested in applying for funding to the Elliott's Walk development to provide 24 single-family homes for sale at price points between \$150,000 and \$180,000 as well as the infrastructure for this development.

Analysis: The applicant must be the local government. If awarded, the city will enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with NeighborWorks. The funding will include \$1,000,000 construction loan and \$2,256,463 infrastructure grant.

Financial Considerations: There will be no financial impact to the city. There are no match requirements for this grant/loan by the city. The match funds will be provided by NeighborWorks Columbus.

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

Recommendation/Action: Approval is requested to apply, and if awarded, accept the State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative on behalf of NeighborWorks Columbus by the amount awarded and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded. The loan/grant funding will be utilized by NeighborWorks Columbus towards workforce housing at Elliott's Walk.

RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COLUMBUS CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT IF AWARDED A GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS EQUITY FUND RURAL WORKFORCE HOUSING INITIATIVE LOAN/GRANT FOR WORKFORCE HOUSING AT ELLIOTT’S WALK AND TO AMEND MULTIGOVERNMENTAL FUND BY THE AMOUNT AWARDED.

WHEREAS, Governor Kemp announced the initiative in January 2023 to spur the development of critically needed workforce housing across the state; and

WHEREAS, NeighborWorks Columbus desires to continue their efforts in the development of Elliott’s Walk in South Columbus; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Affairs has made the opportunity of funding available to local governments thru OneGeorgia Authority.

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

The Columbus Consolidated Government is hereby authorized to apply for and, if awarded accept a State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative on behalf of NeighborWorks Columbus by the amount awarded and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____, 2023, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

- Councilor Allen voting _____.
- Councilor Barnes voting _____.
- Councilor Begly voting _____.
- Councilor Cogle voting _____.
- Councilor Crabb voting _____.
- Councilor Davis voting _____.
- Councilor Garrett voting _____.
- Councilor Huff voting _____.
- Councilor Thomas voting _____.
- Councilor Tucker voting _____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson III, Mayor