

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	FY2026 5303 Grant Application for Planning Assistance - METRA
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to submit an application and accept, if awarded, a capital, planning, and operating grant from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) in the amount of \$165,801.00 or otherwise awarded, with a ten percent match required from the City. Approval is then requested to execute any contracts with the Federal Transit Administration and/or the Georgia Department of Transportation relating to the grant.
INITIATED BY:	Department of Transportation/METRA

Recommendation: Approval is requested to submit an application and accept, if awarded, a capital, planning, and operating grant from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) in the amount of \$165,801.00 or otherwise awarded, with a ten percent match required from the City. Approval is then requested to execute any contracts with the Federal Transit Administration and/or the Georgia Department of Transportation relating to the grant.

Background: The City has applied, in the past, for capital, planning, and operating grants offered by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). The 5303 Grant being requested is funded in the following manner.

	CAPITAL	PLANNING	OPERATING
State 5303	0%	90%	0%
Local 5303	0%	10%	0%

90% shall be provided to the City by the State. Of the 90% in State funding, GDOT funds 10% and FTA funds 80%. If approved, the City shall provide the required 10% match. GDOT administers the grant on behalf of the State.

Analysis:

**Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5303
(Formerly Section 8)**

GRANT 5303	GDOT	CITY	FTA	TOTAL
PLANNING	\$165,801.00	\$18,423.00	\$0	\$184,224.00

Financial Considerations: If approved, the City shall receive \$165,801.00 in State-administered Section 5303 grant funding. This grant shall be used to support public transportation in our community. A ten percent match from the city is required.

Projected Annual Fiscal Impact Statement: The funds are designated for Columbus and METRA Transit System to fund transit planning activities.

Legal Considerations: Council must authorize the grant application through a resolution. If authorized, the resolution will be included with the grant application. In addition, the resolution authorizes the City to accept the grant, if awarded, and execute any contracts with the Federal Transit Administration and/or the Georgia Department of Transportation relating to the grant.

Recommendations/Actions: Approval is requested to submit an application and accept, if awarded, a capital, planning, and operating grant from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) in the amount of \$165,801.00 or otherwise awarded, with a ten percent match required from the City. Approval is then requested to execute any contracts with the Federal Transit Administration and/or the Georgia Department of Transportation relating to the grant.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT A GRANT, FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, UNDER TITLE 49 U.S.C., SECTION 5303.

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the US Department of Transportation and the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Transportation are authorized to make grants for mass transportation projects; and,

WHEREAS, the FY2026 UPWP indicates the amount of the Section 5303 funds and the state share by the Georgia Department of Transportation as \$165,801.00; and,

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant, including the provision of the City share of the project costs, \$18,423.00; and,

WHEREAS, it is required by the U.S. Department of Transportation in accord with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that in connection with the filing of an application for assistance under Title 49 U.S.C. the Applicant gives an assurance that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other pertinent directives and the U.S. Department of Transportation requirements there under; and,

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the Applicant that Minority Business Enterprise (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Women's Business Enterprise) be utilized to the fullest extent possible in connection with this project, and that definitive procedures shall be established and administered to ensure that minority business shall have the maximum feasible opportunity to compete for contracts and purchase orders when procuring construction contracts, supplies equipment contracts, or consultant and other services.

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

(1)

That the City Manager or his designee, herein referred to as the Official, are authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia with the Georgia Department of Transportation, to aid in the financing of a technical study grant to implement specific items of the FY2026 Unified Planning Work Program;

(2)

That the Official is authorized to execute and file with such application and assurance, or any other document required by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Georgia Department of Transportation effectuating the purposes of this grant;

(3)

That the Official is authorized to furnish such additional information as the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Georgia Department of Transportation may require in connection with the application or the project;

(4)

That the Official is authorized to set forth and execute Minority Business Enterprise, DBE (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise) and WBE (Women Business Enterprise) policies and procedures in connection with the project’s procurement needs; and,

(5)

That the Official is authorized to execute a grant agreement on behalf of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia with the Georgia Department of Transportation to aid in the financing of a technical study grant to implement specific items of the Columbus, Georgia Unified Planning Work Program.

(6)

That the applicant while making application to or receiving grants from the Federal Transit Administration will comply with the FTA Circular 8100.1D, FTA Certifications and Assurances for Federal Assistance 2024 as listed in this grant application and General Operating Guidelines as illustrated in the Georgia State Management Plan.

(7)

That the applicant has or will have available the required non-federal funds to meet local share requirements for this grant application.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____ 2024, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Chambers voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson III, Mayor