

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	2021 Brownfield Assessment Grant
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to apply, and if awarded, accept, and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded up to \$500,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The grant funding will be utilized to conduct Brownfield Assessments of properties within the Southside Railroad Corridor areas of Columbus. There are no match requirements for this grant.
INITIATED BY:	City Manager's Office

Recommendation: Approval is requested to apply, and if awarded, accept, and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded up to \$500,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The grant funding will be utilized to conduct Brownfield Assessments of properties within the Southside Railroad Corridor areas of Columbus per the attached map.

Background: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced the FY 2021 Request for Brownfield Assessment and Cleanup Grant Proposals. Community Reinvestment has worked with Terracon to develop a grant application which was submitted to EPA on December 3, 2019. The city was notified that the application was not selected as a recipient of the grant. The city was encouraged to reapply for funding for the same activity and the same amount. The rewritten application was submitted in October 2020. The city was notified that the 2nd application was not selected as a recipient of the grant. The city was encouraged to reapply for funding for the same activity with a different amount, no later than December 1, 2021. If awarded the Brownfield Assessment Grant could provide up to \$500,000 to conduct environmental studies on properties located within Columbus, Georgia. The assessment will provide the City with information on the number of potentially environmentally contaminated properties that exist within the boundaries of the Southside Railroad Corridor areas of Columbus. This will be the step in developing a plan for remediation in order for the properties to be redeveloped for future uses.

Analysis: If awarded the City of Columbus could receive up to \$500,000 to conduct assessments of the properties within the Southside Railroad Corridor areas of Columbus to determine how many may be environmentally impacted. The report will be a useful tool for redevelopment purposes and can be used to potentially bring more grant funding to Columbus to clean-up some of the identified environmentally contaminated properties.

Financial Considerations: There will be no financial impact. There are no match requirements for this grant.

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

Recommendation/Action: Approve the attached Resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply, accept, and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded up to \$500,000

from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The grant funding will be utilized to conduct Brownfield Assessments of properties within Columbus, Georgia.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT, AND AMEND THE MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL FUND BY THE AMOUNT AWARDED UP TO \$500,000 FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO FUND BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENTS OF PROPERTIES WITHIN THE CITY OF COLUMBUS.

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced the FY 2021 Request for Brownfield Assessment and Cleanup Grant Proposals; and,

WHEREAS, if awarded the Brownfield Assessment Grant could provide up to \$500,000 to conduct environmental studies on properties located within Columbus, Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, the grant application must be submitted to EPA by October 28, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the grant funds will assist the City in developing a plan for the remediation of environmentally contaminated properties so these properties can be redeveloped for future uses.

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

To authorize the City Manager to apply, accept, and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded up to \$500,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to conduct a Brownfield Assessment of properties located within Columbus, Georgia.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____, 2021 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, Mayor