

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Georgia Public Safety Officials and First Responders Supplement Grant Application
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to submit a grant application to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget for \$1,000 pay supplement for all eligible Public Safety Personnel and First Responders.
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

Recommendation: Approval is requested to apply for a grant from the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget for the state of Georgia to provide a \$1000 supplement to all eligible Public Safety and First Responder personnel.

Background and Analysis: Governor Kemp announced a Public Safety Officials and First Responders Supplement Grant using funding from the American Rescue Plan Act. This grant was established in recognition of the sacrifice and dedication public safety officers and first responders have shown in serving Georgians and their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant will provide a \$1,000 pay supplement for all eligible sworn law enforcement officials and first responders serving during August 2021.

Eligible employees include certified full-time employees who served as a public safety officer or first responder during the month of August, 2021 in a position which requires active certification as a law enforcement officer, corrections officer, juvenile corrections officer, jail officer, probation officer, parole officer, communications officer, firefighter, or emergency medical services worker by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council (POST), Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council (GFSTC), or Department of Public Health (DPH).

Financial Considerations:

Funding source is the State Fiscal Recovery Funds. Eligible full-time public safety officials and first responders will receive a \$1,000 grant; the payments will be subject to FICA and Medicare.

Legal Considerations: The Columbus Consolidated government is eligible to receive the grant funding offered by the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget.

Recommendation/Action: Apply for, and if awarded, accept the \$1,000 supplemental grant payments to Public Safety Officials and First Responders from the American Rescue Plan Act.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE TO APPLY FOR THE GOVERNOR’S PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICIALS AND FIRST RESPONDERS SUPPLEMENT GRANT USING FUNDING FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT. THE GRANT WILL PROVIDE A \$1,000 PAY SUPPLEMENT FOR ALL ELIGIBLE SWORN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS AND FIRST RESPONDERS SERVING DURING AUGUST OF 2021. THIS GRANT PROVIDES FINANCIAL REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES LIKELY TO HAVE BEEN INCURRED AS A RESULT OF BEING A FRONTLINE FIRST RESPONDER.

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget has authorized city, county, and state government entities to apply for the Georgia Public Safety Officials and First Responders Supplement Grant; and,

WHEREAS, the grant addresses the negative economic impact of COVID-19 that frontline first responders face.

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

The City Manager is authorized to apply to the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget on behalf of the City for the Georgia Public safety Officials and First Responders Supplement Grant for the purpose of receiving grant funds should the application be approved.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the 16th day of November 2021, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of 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