

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	American Rescue Plan – Grant Program Reallocation
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to reallocate the balance remaining in the America Rescue Plan Grant Program from the Nonprofit and Economic/Tourism categories to the Small Business category
INITIATED BY:	City Manager’s Office

Recommendation: Approval is requested to reallocate the balance remaining in the America Rescue Plan Grant Program from the Nonprofit and Economic/Tourism categories to the Small Business category.

Background: The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was signed into law on March 11, 2021. It was \$1.9 trillion for economic relief from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding was provided directly to states and local government. The amount allocated to the City of Columbus/Muscogee County was \$78,482,038. The initial allocation is 50% or \$39,241,019. This amount includes the city allocation of \$20,228,102.50 received on June 7, 2021 and the county allocation of \$19,012,916.50 received on June 14, 2021. Funding was allocated per Resolution No. 304-21 to a grant program for those businesses and organizations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. There were three types of grant programs that were allocated funding: Small Businesses = \$3,000,000, Economic/Tourism = \$850,000, Nonprofits = \$1,000,000. There is a balance remaining in the Economic/Tourism and Nonprofit categories and a need for additional funds in the Small Business category based on the applications submitted.

Analysis: The U. S. Treasury has issued an Interim Final Rule (IFR) on May 17, 2021 which outlines how the eligible uses of the funds under the Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Funds (SLFRF). Eligible costs must be incurred between March 3, 2021 and December 31, 2024 and expended by December 31, 2026. The eligible uses include responding to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts, responding to working performing essential work, revenue replacement for the government, and investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure. There is a balance remaining of approximately \$750,000 in the Economic/Tourism and approximately \$393,000 in Nonprofit categories and a need for additional funds in the Small Business category based on the applications submitted.

Financial Considerations: The funding is available in the ARP first allocation.

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

Recommendation/Action: Approval is requested to reallocate the balance remaining in the America Rescue Plan Grant Program from the Nonprofit and Economic/Tourism categories to the Small Business category.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REALLOCATION OF THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN GRANT PROGRAM FROM ECONOMIC/TOURISM AND NONPROFIT CATEGORIES TO SMALL BUSINESS CATEGORY.

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) was signed into law on March 11, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, \$1.9 trillion for economic relief from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic was funded; and,

WHEREAS, local and state governments were allocated funding through the ARP; and,

WHEREAS, the Columbus Consolidated Government was allocation \$78,482,038 of which \$40,456,205 is the city allocation and \$38,025,833 is the county; and,

WHEREAS, the CCG has received the first phase of funding totaling \$39,241,019; and,

WHEREAS, the CCG has identified the following funding priorities:

- Automation of Garbage Collection to include Garbage Trucks and Carts = \$18,413,960.10 (revised from \$19,530,030)
 - Revenue Recovery = \$3,559,470.84
 - Small Business Grants = \$3,000,000
 - Ambulances = \$2,100,000
 - Community Safeguard Programs to include Cure Violence, Summer Youth and Youth Development Programs, and Cameras = \$3,410,756.90 (revised from \$1,000,000)
 - Broadband/Cyber Security Upgrades – Phase 1 = \$3,000,000
 - Premium pay for Public Safety and Other Essential Employees = \$3,705,313 (revised from \$5,000,000)
 - Stormwater Infrastructure = \$0 (Delay to Phase 2)
 - Economic/Tourism Grants = \$850,000
 - Non-Profit Grants = \$1,000,000
 - Administration (includes a full-time temporary position for up to 3 years) = \$201,518.16;
- and,

WHEREAS, there is a desire to reallocate the amount designated for Economic/Tourist and Nonprofit Grants to Small Business Grants based on the applications submitted.

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

To authorize the reallocation of approximately \$750,000 of Economic/Tourism Grant funding and approximately \$393,000 of Nonprofit Grant funding to the Small Business Grant funding.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____, 2022 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