

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Council
AGENDA SUBJECT:	GEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan Grant
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to submit an application and if approved, accept funds from GEMA for the required update of the City's Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan, in the amount of \$40,201, or as otherwise awarded, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the grant awarded. The grant award amount includes an \$8,500 in-kind local match requirement, which is fulfilled using existing salaries of Emergency Management personnel.
INITIATED BY:	Fire/EMS Emergency Management

Recommendation: Approval is requested to submit an application and if approved, accept funds from GEMA for the required update of the City's Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan, in the amount of \$40,201, or as otherwise awarded, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the grant awarded. The grant award amount includes an \$8,500 in-kind local match requirement, which is fulfilled using existing salaries of Emergency Management personnel.

Background: The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act authorizes the release of federal financial assistance to communities that have experienced a disaster and have been declared a disaster area by the President of the United States. The amended Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 required that local governments must have a prepared, adopted, and federally-approved pre-disaster mitigation plan in order to be eligible for federal financial disaster assistance, starting November 1, 2016. The city prepared its plan in 2005, which was adopted by City Council in Resolution 552-05.

Analysis: This plan is due for review and revision in keeping with the Act's timetable for revision. The grant will allow the City to procure the services of a vendor to update the existing plan. The Emergency Management Division of the Columbus Fire and Emergency Medical Services will administer the grant and provide coordination and guidance, and the hours put in by local personnel will be used as the in-kind match required by the grant.

Financial Considerations: The attached resolution will authorize the acceptance of a GEMA grant in the amount of \$40,201, or as otherwise awarded, including an in-kind match requirement of \$8,500.

Legal Considerations: The Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan is required by the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, and is due for revision. Revising this plan will maintain the city's eligibility for federal financial disaster assistance as well as for receiving other Hazard Mitigation grants.

Recommendation: Authorize a resolution to approve the City to submit an application for, and if awarded, accept a grant from GEMA for updating the City's Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan, in the amount of \$40,201, or as otherwise awarded, including a local in-kind match requirement of \$8,500, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund by the amount of the grant awarded.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT FROM THE GEORGIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,201.00, OR AS OTHERWISE AWARDED, TO UPDATE THE EXISTING PRE-DISASTER HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN CURRENTLY IN EFFECT FOR COLUMBUS, GA/MUSCOGEE COUNTY AS REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AND TO AMEND THE MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL FUND BUDGET FUND BY LIKE AMOUNT. THIS PLAN IS DUE FOR REVIEW AND REVISION IN KEEPING WITH THE ACCEPTED TIMETABLE FOR THE REVISION. THIS GRANT AWARD AMOUNT INCLUDES A REQUIRED A LOCAL MATCH TOTALING \$8,500, WHICH WILL BE “IN KIND”, MEANING THE LOCAL MATCH WILL CONSIST OF THE HOURS PUT IN BY LOCAL PERSONNEL TOWARD THE COORDINATION AND GUIDANCE WITH THE EVENTUAL SELECTED VENDOR. THIS GRANT SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF THE COLUMBUS FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

WHEREAS, this grant will allow the City to select and approve a vendor to update the current Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan; and,

WHEREAS, this plan will meet all federal requirements to maintain the City’s eligibility for future Hazard Mitigation grants and maintain the City’s eligibility to receive federal disaster reimbursement funding in the event of a federally declared disaster in Columbus, GA; and,

WHEREAS, the Emergency Management Division will use this plan to identify vulnerable facilities and areas of the City for future Hazard Mitigation grant applications and requests; and,

WHEREAS, the local match totaling \$8,500 will be met by personnel costs of assisting, coordinating and guiding the successful vendor in the update of the plan and no funds will be expended by the General Fund.

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

That the City Manager, Mayor, or their designee is hereby authorized to submit an application and if approved, accept a Hazard Mitigation Grant from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency in the amount of \$40,201 including a local “In Kind” match of \$8,500, or as otherwise awarded, and the FY 22 multi-governmental fund budget will be amended by like amount and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the _____ day of _____, 2021 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ten 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