

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NeighborWorks Columbus
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to authorize an MOU with NeighborWorks Columbus for the development of workforce housing at the Newman's Crossing subdivision utilizing State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative Funding.
INITIATED BY:	Community Reinvestment

Recommendation: Approval is requested to authorize an MOU with NeighborWorks Columbus for the development of workforce housing at the Newman's Crossing subdivision utilizing State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative Funding.

Background: The State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has announced the newly established Rural Workforce Housing Initiative. It is meant to spur the development of critically needed workforce housing across the state. Through resolution 352-25, The City of Columbus has applied on behalf of NeighborWorks Columbus for the Newman's Crossing development, which was awarded and will provide 62 single-family homes for sale at price points between \$125,000 and \$290,000 as well as the infrastructure for this development. The City wishes to enter into a programmatic administration of the allocated funds through an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NeighborWorks Columbus for the State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative.

Analysis: The applicant for the funding source had to be a unit of local government. The City of Columbus was awarded and to move forward, the city will enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with NeighborWorks Columbus. The funding will include a \$2,500,000 infrastructure grant (State of GA).

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

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

Recommendations/Actions: Approval is requested to authorize a MOU with NeighborWorks Columbus for the development of workforce housing at Newman's Crossing utilizing State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative Funding.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE COLUMBUS HOUSING INITIATIVE, DBA NEIGHBORWORKS COLUMBUS, FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF WORKFORCE HOUSING AT NEWMAN’S CROSSING UTILIZING STATE OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS EQUITY FUND RURAL WORKFORCE HOUSING INITIATIVE FUNDING.

WHEREAS, The State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has announced the newly established Rural Workforce Housing Initiative, meant to spur the development of critically needed workforce housing across the state; and,

WHEREAS, DCA has made the opportunity of funding available to local governments through the OneGeorgia Authority; and,

WHEREAS, The Columbus Consolidated Government has applied for and accepted a State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative Award on behalf of NeighborWorks Columbus; and,

WHEREAS, The City wishes to enter into a programmatic administration of the awarded funds through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NeighborWorks Columbus for the State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative at Newman’s Crossing.

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

The Mayor or his Designee is authorized to execute the attached memorandum of understanding and appropriate related documents relative to the development of workforce housing at Newman’s Crossing utilizing State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative Funding.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the _____ day of _____ 2026 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

- Councilor Allen voting _____
- Councilor Anker voting _____
- Councilor Chambers voting _____
- Councilor Cogle voting _____
- Councilor Crabb voting _____
- Councilor Davis voting _____
- Councilor Garrett voting _____

Councilor Hickey voting _____
Councilor Huff voting _____
Councilor Tucker voting _____

Lindsey G. Mclemore, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor