

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Little League Baseball Grants
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to make available a one-time grant of up to \$12,500 for each of the Baseball Youth Leagues: Pioneer, Sally, Northern, Eastern, National, Dixie, Peach, and American to cover expenses incurred by the League or individuals on behalf of the League for materials or equipment used for the maintenance and repair of City owned fields used by the League.
INITIATED BY:	City Manager's Office

Recommendation: Approval is requested to make available a one-time grant of up to \$12,500 for each of the Baseball Youth Leagues: Pioneer, Sally, Northern, Eastern, National, Dixie, Peach, and American to cover expenses incurred by the League or individuals on behalf of the League for materials or equipment used for the maintenance and repair of City owned fields used by the League.

Background: On May 16, 2023, Council voted to add \$100,000 to the FY2024 Parks & Recreation Budget for Parks Maintenance with the intent of assisting various sports leagues to improve and maintain their playing fields and facilities at the Budget Review Session. The addition to the budget was reflected in the Columbus Consolidated Government FY24 Budget, which was adopted by Ordinance No. 23-038 on June 27, 2023.

The \$100,000 which was placed in the FY2024 budget for Parks & Recreation to address field maintenance issues will be used to make available a one-time grant of up to \$12,500 for each of the Baseball Youth Leagues: Pioneer, Sally, Northern, Eastern, National, Dixie, Peach, and American.

Analysis: The purpose of each grant shall be to cover expenses incurred by the League or individuals on behalf of the League for materials or equipment used for the maintenance and repair of City-owned fields used by the League.

Each League shall receive their grant upon submitting proof to the Department of Parks & Recreation that the League or individuals on behalf of the League have paid or unpaid invoices for expenses described in the paragraph above in an amount of \$12,500 or more. If a League has not incurred qualified expenses amounting to \$12,500, it may receive a grant in the amount of expenses incurred up to \$12,500. Each League will have until May 30, 2024, to submit proof of entitlement for the grant, and all grant funds will be disbursed no later than June 30, 2024.

Legal Considerations: The City Attorney's Office has reviewed this request and has no legal issues with this change.

Financial Considerations: The \$100,000 which was placed in the FY2024 budget for Parks & Recreation to address field maintenance issues will be used to make available a one-time grant of up to \$12,500 for each of the Baseball Youth Leagues: Pioneer, Sally, Northern, Eastern, National, Dixie, Peach, and American.

Recommendation/Action: Approval is requested to make available a one-time grant of up to \$12,500 for each of the Baseball Youth Leagues: Pioneer, Sally, Northern, Eastern, National, Dixie, Peach, and American to cover expenses incurred by the League or individuals on behalf of the League for materials or equipment used for the maintenance and repair of City owned fields used by the League.

**RESOLUTION
NO.**

WHEREAS, at its Budget Review Session on May 16, 2023, Council voted to add \$100,000 to the FY2024 Parks & Recreation Budget for Parks Maintenance with the intent of assisting various sports leagues to improve and maintain their playing fields and facilities; and,

WHEREAS, that addition to the budget was reflected in the Columbus Consolidated Government FY24 Budget, which was adopted by Ordinance No. 23-038 on June 27, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, after further deliberation this Council wishes to provide further direction in the use of these funds based on critical needs pending for the spring little league baseball season.

THEREFORE, THE COLUMBUS COUNCIL NOW HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. The \$100,000 which was placed in the FY2024 budget for Parks & Recreation to address field maintenance issues will be used to make available a one-time grant of up to \$12,500 for each of the Baseball Youth Leagues: Pioneer, Sally, Northern, Eastern, National, Dixie, Peach, and American.
2. The purpose of each grant shall be to cover expenses incurred by the League or individuals on behalf of the League for materials or equipment used for the maintenance and repair of City owned fields used by the League.
3. Each League shall receive their grant upon submitting proof to the Department of Parks & Recreation that the League or individuals on behalf of the League have paid or unpaid invoices for expenses described in paragraph 2. above in an amount of \$12,500 or more. If a League has not incurred qualified expenses amounting to \$12,500, it may receive a grant in the amount of expenses incurred up to \$12,500. Each League will have until May 30, 2024, to submit proof of entitlement for the grant and all grant funds will be disbursed no later than June 30, 2024.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the ____ day of _____, 2024 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of Council.

Councilor Allen voting _____.
Councilor Barnes voting _____.
Councilor Begly voting _____.
Councilor Cogle voting _____.
Councilor Crabb voting _____.
Councilor Davis voting _____.
Councilor Garrett voting _____.
Councilor Huff voting _____.
Councilor Thomas voting _____.
Councilor Tucker voting _____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Mayor

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