COLUMBUS CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT

Georgia's First Consolidated Government Post Office Box 1340 Columbus, Georgia 31902-1340

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III Mayor



Telephone (706) 225-4712

March 26, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to a Resolution duly adopted by the Columbus Council, the undersigned Mayor of Columbus, Georgia hereby expresses strong support for the United Way EDA Recompete Pilot Grant, including the points listed below, which aim to reduce barriers to employment while creating additional workforce opportunities for citizens of Columbus, Georgia.

- 1) Columbus will actively support state legislation to create a childcare tax incentive for employers within Georgia who offset the childcare costs of their employees by a determined amount or percentage.
- 2) Columbus will procure a public transportation study/audit from an independent mass transit ridership and route selection consultant to determine improvements to the public transportation system that would reduce transportation -related employment barriers.
- 3) Columbus will coordinate, through public-private partnerships, the funding of up to \$1.2 million for the construction, renovation, or conversion of an aircraft hangar at the Columbus Metropolitan Airport or similar structure or facility for use as an applied learning classroom/laboratory for avionics instruction (CY24) and airframe and powerplant maintainers course (NET CY28) by Columbus Technical College under appropriate lease to Columbus Tech.
- 4) Columbus will assist program grantees with the Recompete program sub-projects in matters of zoning, permitting, and code inspections.
- 5) Columbus will designate the appropriate City official to work with the United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley Recompete Pilot project leaders and the Development Authority of Columbus, Georgia, and any other community partners to identify, inform, advise, and regularly update the Mayor, City Manager and Columbus Council on program progress during the project.

Columbus, Georgia stands ready to facilitate and assist the United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley and any grantee recipient under the United Way EDA Recompete Pilot Grant program.

Very best regards,

B.H. "Skip' Henderson III Mayor Columbus Consolidated Government

Cc: Sandra Davis, Clerk of Council, Columbus Consolidated Government Isaiah Hugley, City Manger Clifton C. Fay, City Attorney Jerald Mitchell, President & CEO, Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce Heath Schondelmayer, Chairman, Columbus Development Authority