

**Columbus Consolidated Government  
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

<b>TO:</b>	<b>Mayor and Councilors</b>
<b>AGENDA SUBJECT:</b>	<b>2020 National Science Foundation – Civic Innovation Challenge (CIVIC)</b>
<b>AGENDA SUMMARY:</b>	Approval is requested to submit an application in conjunction with our research partners at Georgia Tech or, should Georgia Tech choose to apply independently, work with our research partners, and if awarded, accept the 2020 National Science Foundation – Civic Innovation Challenge Grant and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award. There is the possibility of applying with our Georgia Tech research partners or working with our research partner should they apply independently for the second stage in 2021. A total of up to 12 awards in the amount of \$50,000 will be given out for a planning period that comprises Stage 1 and up to 4 awards in the amount of \$1,000,000 for Stage 2. There is no local match required.
<b>INITIATED BY:</b>	<b>Information Technology</b>

**Recommendation:** Approval is requested to submit an application in conjunction with our research partners at Georgia Tech or, should Georgia Tech choose to apply independently, work with our research partners, and if awarded, accept the 2020 National Science Foundation – Civic Innovation Challenge Grant and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award. There is the possibility of applying with our Georgia Tech research partners or working with our research partner should they apply independently for the second stage in 2021.

**Background:** The Civic Innovation Challenge (CIVIC) is a research and action competition in the Smart and Connected Communities (S&CC) domain designed to build a more cohesive research-to-innovation pipeline and foster a collaborative spirit. CIVIC introduces several unique features that differentiate it from the NSF S&CC program: (1) CIVIC flips the community university dynamic, asking communities to identify civic priorities ripe for innovation and then to partner with researchers to address those priorities; (2) CIVIC focuses on research that is ready for piloting in and with communities on a short timescale, where real-world impact can be evaluated within 12 months; (3) CIVIC requires the inclusion of civic partners in the core project team, to emphasize civic engagement; and (4) CIVIC organizes and fosters “communities of practice” around high-need problem areas that allow for meaningful knowledge sharing and cross-site collaboration during both pre-development and piloting. For purposes of clarity, civic partners may include local, state, or tribal government officials; non-profit representatives; community organizers or advocates; community. CIVIC is organized as a two-stage competition with two tracks centered around the following topic areas:

- **Track A.** Communities and Mobility: *Offering Better Mobility Options to Solve the Spatial Mismatch Between Housing Affordability and Jobs;*

- **Track B.** Resilience to Natural Disasters: *Equipping Communities for Greater Preparedness and Resilience to Natural Disasters.*

A total of up to 12 awards in the amount of \$50,000 will be given out for a planning period that comprises Stage 1 and up to 4 awards in the amount of \$1,000,000 for Stage 2.

**Analysis:** If awarded the Grant, the Columbus Consolidated Government will partner with our researchers at Georgia Tech to work towards a plan to complete Track B, that when developed will add the most value to Columbus while expanding science in a way that appeals to the National Science Foundation.

**Financial Considerations:** Stage 1 of the grant has an award total of \$50,000 that would be awarded to Georgia Tech to help develop something that has value for Columbus. Stage 2 of the grant has an award total of \$1,000,000 that all Stage 1 proposals are competing to secure. This amount would go to Georgia Tech with the ability to subaward/subcontract to Columbus.

**Legal Considerations:** Any Grant concerns will be vetted by the CCG City Attorney's Office

**Recommendations/Actions:** That the Mayor, City Manager, or Designee is hereby authorized approval to submit an application and/or sign any documents relating to the CIVIC grant, in conjunction with our research partners at Georgia Tech or, should Georgia Tech choose to apply independently, work with our research partners, and if awarded, accept a 2020 National Science Foundation – Civic Innovation Challenge Grant and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award. There is the possibility of applying with our Georgia Tech research partners or working with our research partner should they apply independently for the second stage in 2021.

**A RESOLUTION**

**NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, CITY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT AND/OR SIGN ANY DOCUMENTATION RELATING TO A 2020/2021 NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION – CIVIC INNOVATION CHALLENGE (CIVIC) GRANT OR AS OTHERWISE AWARDED AND AMEND THE MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL FUND BY THE AMOUNT OF THE AWARD. NO LOCAL MATCH IS REQUIRED.**

**WHEREAS**, Communities are made up of government and non-government groups that want to work together towards a common, smart-community future; and,

**WHEREAS**, the grant requires that the governing body be notified of the application; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES;**

That the Mayor, City Manager, or Designee is hereby authorized approval to submit an application and/or sign any documents relating to the CIVIC grant, in conjunction with our research partners at Georgia Tech or, should Georgia Tech choose to apply independently, work with our research partners, and if awarded, accept a 2020/2021 National Science Foundation – Civic Innovation Challenge Grant or as otherwise awarded and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2020, 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 Thompson voting	_____.
Councilor Woodson voting	_____.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
B.H. “Skip” Henderson, Mayor