

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Columbus Targeted Housing Market Needs Assessment
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council approve payment to United Way in the amount of \$11,384.00 to cover the City's share for the preparation of the Columbus Housing Market Needs Assessment.

The Center for Economic Development Research (CEDR) within the Enterprise Innovation Institute (EI2) at Georgia Tech Georgia Tech, partnering with United Way in this region, provides assistance to support economic development efforts in Georgia including research, facilitation, technical, analytical, and management expertise. As a designated U.S. Economic Development Administration University Center, EI2 provides these services through its headquarters in Atlanta and a network of regional offices located throughout Georgia.

The overall purpose of the needs assessment is to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the housing market in Columbus/Muscogee County to provide a thorough understanding of the local housing market, identify key trends and drivers of demand and supply, and inform stakeholders about current and future market rate and workforce housing needs. The proposed project will be divided into three phases with separate pricing and timelines: Phase I: Columbus Targeted Housing Market Assessment, Phase II: Regional Housing Market Assessment, and Phase III: Economic Development Ready Community Certification Pilot Program.

In Phase I: Columbus Targeted Housing Market Assessment, CEDR will work closely with the Columbus Consolidated Government to collect and review necessary documents and data relevant to current residential development, both existing and planned, within the consolidated city/county boundary. Phase I will also estimate future housing needs based on natural population growth in the future. This phase of the project will be divided into six major task areas: (1) Kickoff meeting and interviews with key stakeholders, (2) Build community profile with demographic and economic data, (3) Conduct housing market analysis, (4) Prepare a workforce housing needs assessment and implementation toolbox, (5) Submit draft report with recommendations for client review, and (6) Submit final report and present findings to stakeholders. The final Columbus Targeted Housing Market Assessment report will include detailed results of the analysis, key findings, and recommendations for future actions. The final report will be presented to key stakeholders, appointed board and committee members, and elected officials once final edits and changes are made to the draft report. This will allow open discussion about the findings of the study and allow for questions and comments at an open meeting.

The city's portion of the costs will be paid from General Fund Reserves charged to: General Fund – Non-Departmental – Non-Categorical – Research/Planning; 0101-590-3000-NCAT-6316.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO UNITED WAY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,384.00 TO COVER THE CITY'S SHARE FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE COLUMBUS HOUSING MARKET NEEDS ASSESSMENT.

WHEREAS, the Center for Economic Development Research (CEDR) within the Enterprise Innovation Institute (EI2) at Georgia Tech Georgia Tech, partnering with United Way in this region, provides assistance to support economic development efforts in Georgia including research, facilitation, technical, analytical, and management expertise. As a designated U.S. Economic Development Administration University Center, EI2 provides these services through its headquarters in Atlanta and a network of regional offices located throughout Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, the overall purpose of the needs assessment is to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the housing market in Columbus/Muscogee County to provide a thorough understanding of the local housing market, identify key trends and drivers of demand and supply, and inform stakeholders about current and future market rate and workforce housing needs. The proposed project will be divided into three phases with separate pricing and timelines: Phase I: Columbus Targeted Housing Market Assessment, Phase II: Regional Housing Market Assessment, and Phase III: Economic Development Ready Community Certification Pilot Program: and,

WHEREAS, in Phase I: Columbus Targeted Housing Market Assessment, CEDR will work closely with the Columbus Consolidated Government to collect and review necessary documents and data relevant to current residential development, both existing and planned, within the consolidated city/county boundary. Phase I will also estimate future housing needs based on natural population growth in the future. This phase of the project will be divided into six major task areas: (1) Kickoff meeting and interviews with key stakeholders, (2) Build community profile with demographic and economic data, (3) Conduct housing market analysis, (4) Prepare a workforce housing needs assessment and implementation toolbox, (5) Submit draft report with recommendations for client review, and (6) Submit final report and present findings to stakeholders; and,

WHEREAS, the final Columbus Targeted Housing Market Assessment report will include detailed results of the analysis, key findings, and recommendations for future actions. The final report will be presented to key stakeholders, appointed board and committee members, and elected officials once final edits and changes are made to the draft report. This will allow open discussion about the findings of the study and allow for questions and comments at an open meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

That the City Manager is hereby authorized to render payment to United Way in the amount of \$11,384.00 to cover the City's share for the preparation of the Columbus Housing Market Needs Assessment. The city's portion of the costs will be paid from General Fund Reserves charged to: General Fund – Non-Departmental – Non-Categorical – Research/Planning; 0101-590-3000-NCAT-6316.

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