Columbus Consolidated Government Council Meeting Agenda Item

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Lease Agreement – Fox Community Center: 3720 5th Avenue, Columbus, Georgia 31904 –U-Grow Inc.
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to enter into a lease agreement with U-Grow Inc. to lease space at the Fox Community Center located at 3720 5th Avenue, Columbus, Georgia 31904. The Columbus Consolidated Government will lease at the rate of \$1.00 per annum, being a sum of \$3.00 prior to the commencement of the initial lease and subsequent renewals.
INITIATED BY:	Community Reinvestment

Recommendation: Approval is requested to authorize the City Manager to execute a lease for 3720 5th Avenue, Columbus, Georgia 31904 with U-Grow Inc. Columbus Consolidated Government will lease at the rate of \$1.00 per annum, being a sum of \$3.00 prior to the commencement of the initial lease and subsequent renewals.

Background: The City of Columbus was approached by a nonprofit, U-Grow Inc., about the potential of leasing space in a city owned property (Fox Community Center) 3720 5th Avenue, Columbus, Georgia 31904. The property's current use is a Community Center. U-Grow Inc. is preparing to launch a Shared Kitchen Project. The shared kitchen space at the Fox Community Center is part of U-Grow Inc.'s overall business model to create economic growth through providing a state certified space for cottage food industries, developing, and growing their food-based businesses. The project also has an education component through a 6-week Cooking Matters SNAP-ED curriculum for children, teenagers, adults, and families, that teaches how to cook on a budget and in a healthy manner. The Shared Kitchen Space is expected to strengthen small food businesses and access to local food.

<u>Analysis:</u> U-Grow Inc. will pay rent and is responsible for general maintenance of the space and utilities.

<u>Financial Considerations</u>: The City will lease at the rate of \$1.00 per annum, being a sum of \$3.00 prior to the commencement of the initial lease and subsequent renewals.

<u>Legal Considerations:</u> Any lease agreement involving City of Columbus owned property requires Council approval.

Recommendation/Action: Approval is requested to authorize the City Manager to execute a lease for space at the Fox Community Center located at 3720 5th Avenue, Columbus, Georgia 31904 with U-Grow Inc.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A LEASE WITH THE U-GROW INC. TO LEASE SPACE AT THE FOX COMMUNITY CENTER LOCATED AT 3720 5TH AVENUE, COLUMBUS, GEORGIA 31901 FOR A SHARED KITCHEN PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City owns the property located at 3720 5th Avenue and is using it for a community center; and

WHEREAS, the U-Grow Inc. is requesting a lease agreement for the leasing of space; and

WHEREAS, the space highlighted on the attachment, will be used to construct a shared kitchen space; and

WHEREAS, The City will lease at the rate of \$1.00 per annum, being a sum of \$3.00 per lease period to be paid prior to lease commencement.

WHEREAS, the terms of lease agreement for the space being utilized is January 1, 2023, through December 3, 2025.

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

That the City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into a lease agreement and any subsequent renewals with U-Grow Inc. to lease space at the Fox Community Center located at 3720 5th Avenue, Columbus, Georgia 31904.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the		
day of ten members of said Council.	2022 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of	
Councilor Allen voting Councilor Barnes voting Councilor Cogle Voting Councilor Crabb voting Councilor Davis voting Councilor Garrett voting Councilor House voting Councilor Huff voting Councilor Thomas voting Councilor Tucker voting		
Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council	B.H. "Skip" Henderson, Mayor	