

**Columbus Consolidated Government  
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

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| <b>TO:</b>             | Mayor and Councilors   |
| <b>AGENDA SUBJECT:</b> | <b>Georgia Credit + High School Equivalency Pilot Grant Proposal</b>   |
| <b>AGENDA SUMMARY:</b> | Approval is requested to accept grant funds set aside for Columbus in the amount of \$108,000.00 or otherwise awarded through the Technical College System of Georgia, Office of Workforce Development (OWD) and to authorize the City Manager to approve any contract(s)/documentation on behalf of the City and to amend the WIOA Department / Job Training Division fund (0220) by the applicable amount. |
| <b>INITIATED BY:</b>   | <b>Workforce Innovation &amp; Opportunity Act (WIOA) Department<br/>Job Training Division</b>  |

**Recommendation:** Approval is requested to accept grant funds set aside for Columbus, Georgia in the amount of \$108,000.00 or otherwise awarded through the Technical College System of Georgia, Office of Workforce Development (OWD) and to authorize the City Manager to approve any contract(s)/documentation on behalf of the City and to amend the WIOA Department / Job Training Division fund (0220) by the applicable amount.

**Background:** The Technical College System of Georgia, Office of Workforce Development has initiated a Career plus High School Equivalency (HSE) Diploma Pilot Program for five Adult Education Programs in the State of Georgia. Columbus Technical College was among the final five locations chosen for the pilot program along with Albany Technical College, Athens Technical College, Central Georgia Technical College and Savannah Technical College in the State of Georgia. TCSG, OWD recognizes there are 1,083,602 adults without a high school diploma with only @10,000 GED diplomas issued each year. However, over 25% of all states are currently offering High School or High School Equivalency Diplomas based on college credits. In response, the development of a new credit based HSE option expanding the opportunities available to receive a high school equivalency credential. This pilot program offers career plus HSE designed after Post-Secondary High School Diplomas (SB-2) developed for K-12 in 2015. It focuses on the attainment of one (1) degree or one (1) diploma or two (2) Technical Certificates of Credit (TCC) in combination with a specified number of prior learning assessments two (2) English, two (2) Social Studies, two (2) Math, two (2) Science and one (1) Health/PE. The First Cohort is scheduled for Spring 2020.

**Analysis:** Georgia is expanding their options for High School Equivalency attainment. The Lower Chattahoochee Workforce Development Board would be honored to provide assistance to individuals who lack a high school credential removing a barrier for employment opportunities. The Lower Chattahoochee Workforce Development Board will be the administrative entity for this grant with Columbus Technical College as the lead partner. Information on plans/implementation/successes of the pilot program will paved the pathway for further programs and will be reported via semi-annual reports.

**Financial Considerations:** The proposed grant amount for LCWDA14 is \$108,000.00 or otherwise awarded for the WIOA Department Job Training Division as acting administrator. There is no financial obligation for the City.

**Legal Considerations:** A resolution from the City Council authorizing acceptance of the grant award on behalf of the City and authorize the City Manager to execute contract(s)/documentation to implement the proposed programming.

**Recommendation/Action:** Authorize a resolution to approve the City to accept grant funds set aside for Columbus, Georgia in the amount of \$108,000.00 or otherwise awarded through the Technical College System of Georgia, Office of Workforce Development (OWD) and to authorize the City Manager to approve any contract(s)/documentation on behalf of the City and to amend the WIOA Department / Job Training Division fund (0220) by the applicable amount

## **A RESOLUTION**

**NO.**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COLUMBUS CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS SET ASIDE FOR COLUMBUS, GEORGIA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$108,000.00 OR OTHERWISE AWARDED THROUGH THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM OF GEORGIA, OFFICE OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (OWD) AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO APPROVE ANY CONTRACT(S)/DOCUMENTATION ON BEHALF OF THE CITY AND TO AMEND THE WIOA DEPARTMENT / JOB TRAINING DIVISION FUND (0220) BY THE APPLICABLE AMOUNT.**

**WHEREAS**, the Career plus High School Equivalency (HSE) Diploma Pilot Program grant is funded through the Technical College System of Georgia, Office of Workforce Development (OWD) with the purpose of funding the state's initial five (5) Adult Education locations. The Lower Chattahoochee Workforce Development Board and Columbus Technical College, will team up to expand the State of Georgia's options for High School Equivalency attainment from: GED (the only current option); to adding a career plus option with WIOA eligible participants completing necessary credit recovery classes plus obtaining a technical credential. The pilot funding period ending June 30, 2021; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) Department and Workforce Development Board (WDB) Chair requests permission to submit proposal for said funds for LCWDA14 for the Career plus High School Equivalency (HSE) Diploma Pilot Program; and,

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of this funding is to expand the State of Georgia's options for High School Equivalency attainment in the Lower Chattahoochee Workforce Development Area (WDA14). Becoming better prepared to identify and create modes of entry into the workforce for various segments of the population (i.e. Adult Ed students, adult and dislocated workers, incumbent workers, returning citizens (ex-offenders), opportunity youth, veterans, etc.); and,

**WHEREAS**, the WIOA Department, Lower Chattahoochee Workforce Development Board and Columbus Technical College are committed to coordinating a collaborative effort aimed in assisting individuals in the attainment of a career plus high school equivalency diploma removing barriers to employment within the State of Georgia at no cost to the Columbus Consolidated Government.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, AS FOLLOWS:**

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_ 2020 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ten 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 \_\_\_\_\_.

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Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

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B.H. "Skip" Henderson, Mayor