

**Columbus Consolidated Government  
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Councilors
<b>AGENDA SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Homeland Security Grant Program - Firefighting Robot Thermite RS-3 -CFEMS</b>
<b>AGENDA SUMMARY:</b>	Approval is requested for the Mayor, or his designee, to apply for and accept, if awarded, the Homeland Security grant award, in the amount of \$408,137.30, or as otherwise awarded, for the purchase of one law enforcement advanced technology robot, with a local match requirement of \$102,034.33, and amend the multi-governmental fund by the amount awarded.
<b>INITIATED BY:</b>	<b>Homeland Security/Emergency Management Department</b>

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**Recommendation:** Approval is requested for the Mayor, or his designee, to apply for and accept, if awarded, the Homeland Security grant award, in the amount of \$408,137.30, or as otherwise awarded, for the purchase of one law enforcement advanced technology robot, with a local match requirement of \$102,034.33, and amend the multi-governmental fund by the amount awarded.

**Background:** Columbus Homeland Security and Emergency Management is requesting a grant to support the acquisition of the Thermite RS3, a remote-controlled robotic firefighting vehicle developed by Howe & Howe Technologies, as requested by Columbus Fire & EMS. This unit would serve as a regional response platform for high-risk, high-temperature, and life-threatening fire scenarios where traditional operations are either ineffective or unsafe for personnel. Positioned as a special operations resource, the RS3 would directly support local operations in Columbus and Muscogee County, while extending capability to Fort Benning, Columbus Airport, and surrounding counties under existing mutual aid agreements. It would fill a critical gap in modern incident response-combining suppression, reconnaissance, and life safety in one autonomous-ready platform

**Analysis:** This purchase needs the support of state homeland security funds. This equipment would be used in Muscogee County and be deployable to mutual aid partners as well.

**Financial Considerations:** This is not a budgeted item, and the 25% match would need to be budgeted once the application is approved.

**Legal Considerations:** Approval of Council is needed to apply for and accept, if awarded, the State Homeland Security grant, and amend the multi-governmental fund by the amount awarded

**Recommendation/Action:** Approval is requested for the Mayor, or his designee, to apply for and accept, if awarded, the Homeland Security grant award, in the amount of \$408,137.30, or as otherwise awarded, for the purchase of one law enforcement advanced technology robot, with a local match requirement of \$102,034.33, and amend the multi-governmental fund by the amount awarded.

**A RESOLUTION**

**NO.**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO  
SUBMIT AND ACCEPT, IF AWARDED, STATE HOMELAND SECURITY FUNDING  
FROM THE GEORGIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AND HOMELAND  
SECURITY, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$408,137.30, OR AS OTHERWISE AWARDED,  
WITH A LOCAL MATCH REQUIRED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$102,034.33 AND  
AMEND THE MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL FUND BY THE AMOUNT AWARDED.**

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

That the Mayor, or his designee, is authorized to apply for and accept, if awarded, a State Homeland Security grant from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency in the amount of \$408,137.30, or as otherwise awarded, with a local match requirement of \$102,034.33, and amend the multi-governmental fund by the amount awarded.

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Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_ 2025 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of \_\_\_\_\_ members  
of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Anker voting	_____.
Councilor Chambers voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

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B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Mayor