

**Columbus Consolidated Government  
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Councilors
<b>AGENDA SUBJECT:</b>	<b>State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Application (NeighborWorks Columbus)</b>
<b>AGENDA SUMMARY:</b>	Approval is requested to apply, and if awarded, accept the State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative on behalf of NeighborWorks Columbus by the amount awarded in the amount of a \$1,500,000 infrastructure loan and \$2,500,000 infrastructure grant, and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded. The loan/grant funding will be utilized by NeighborWorks Columbus for workforce housing at Newman's Crossing, located off Farr Road, to provide 61 single-family homes for sale, as well as the necessary infrastructure for this development.
<b>INITIATED BY:</b>	<b>City Manager's Office</b>

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**Recommendation:** Approval is requested to apply, and if awarded, accept the State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative on behalf of NeighborWorks Columbus by the amount awarded in the amount of a \$1,500,000 infrastructure loan and \$2,500,000 infrastructure grant, and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded. The loan/grant funding will be utilized by NeighborWorks Columbus for workforce housing at Newman's Crossing, located off Farr Road, to provide 61 single-family homes for sale, as well as the necessary infrastructure for this development.

**Background:** The State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) announced the Rural Workforce Housing Initiative in 2023. It is meant to spur the development of critically needed workforce housing across the state. NeighborWorks Columbus is interested in applying for funding to the Newman's Crossing development to provide 61 single-family homes for sale and the infrastructure for this development.

**Analysis:** The applicant must be the local government. If awarded, the city will enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with NeighborWorks. The funding will include a \$1,500,000 infrastructure loan and \$2,500,000 infrastructure grant.

**Financial Considerations:** There will be no financial impact to the city. There are no match requirements for this grant/loan by the city. The match funds will be provided by NeighborWorks Columbus.

**Legal Considerations:** The City Attorney will review all grant agreements prior to obtaining the mayor's or City Manager's signature.

**Recommendation/Action:** Approval is requested to apply, and if awarded, accept the State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative on behalf of NeighborWorks Columbus by the amount awarded in the amount of a \$1,500,000 infrastructure loan and \$2,500,000 infrastructure grant, and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded. The loan/grant funding will be utilized by NeighborWorks Columbus

for workforce housing at Newman's Crossing, located off Farr Road, to provide 61 single-family homes for sale, as well as the necessary infrastructure for this development.

## **RESOLUTION**

**NO.**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT, IF AWARDED, A GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, EQUITY FUND RURAL WORKFORCE HOUSING INITIATIVE LOAN/GRANT FOR WORKFORCE HOUSING AT FARR ROAD, AND TO AMEND MULTIGOVERNMENTAL FUND BY THE AMOUNT AWARDED.**

**WHEREAS**, Governor Kemp announced the initiative in January 2023 to spur the development of critically needed workforce housing across the state; and

**WHEREAS**, NeighborWorks Columbus desires to continue their efforts in the development of Newman’s Crossing in South Columbus; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Community Affairs has made the opportunity of funding available to local governments through the OneGeorgia Authority.

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

The Mayor or City Manager are hereby authorized to apply for and, if awarded, accept a State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Equity Fund Rural Workforce Housing Initiative on behalf of NeighborWorks Columbus, by the amount awarded, and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held 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	_____.

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Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

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B.H. “Skip” Henderson III, Mayor