



~~POST SUMMARY MINUTES~~

Council Chambers
C. E. "Red" McDaniel City Services Center- Second Floor
3111 Citizens Way, Columbus, GA 31906

April 14, 2026
9:00 AM
Regular Meeting

MAYOR'S AGENDA

PRESENT: Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors John Anker, Travis L. Chambers, Joanne Cogle, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis (arrived at 10:04 a.m.), R. Walker Garrett, Byron Hickey, and Toyia Tucker. Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall, Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore and Deputy Clerk of Council Tameka Colbert.

ABSENT: Councilor Bruce Huff and Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin were absent.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Presiding

INVOCATION: Offered by Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards - St. Thomas Episcopal Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Alexander Mitchell - Rainey-McCullers School of the Arts Student

MINUTES:

Mayor's Agenda #1: Vote Result: APPROVED

1. Approval of minutes for the March 31, 2026, Consent Agenda / Work Session and Executive Session.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor's Agenda #2: No Action Taken (Proclamation read into the record by Councilor Tucker)

2. **Proclamation:** Jubilee Freedom Day

Receiving: Johnnie Warner, Aaron Guest, Sr., and Spencer High School Students

Mayor's Agenda #3: No Action Taken (Proclamation read into the record by Councilor Cogle)

3. **Proclamation:** Arts & Culture Month

Receiving: Carrie Beth Wallace, Founder and Editor-in-Chief of The Columbusite

Mayor's Agenda #4: No Action Taken (Proclamation read into the record by Councilor Garrett)

4. **Proclamation:** Ridgecrest Rehab & Skilled Nursing Center Recognition Day

Receiving: Jennifer Kelley, Administrator of Ridgecrest

Mayor's Agenda #5: No Action Taken (Proclamation read into the record by Mayor Pro Tem Allen)

5. **Proclamation:** Georgia Cities Week

Receiving: Teasha Hollis, Director of Communications & Community Affairs, City Manager's Office

Mayor's Agenda #6: No Action Taken (Proclamation read into the record by Councilor Crabb)

6. **Proclamation:** Fair Housing Month

Receiving: John Bunn, Jerry Tucker, and Anthony Montgomery

PRESENTATIONS

7. National Travel and Tourism Week, May 3-9, 2026 – Presented by: Ashley Woitena, President-CEO of VisitColumbusGA. ***No Action Taken***

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

City Attorney's Agenda #1: Vote Result: DELAYED for two weeks (Request of Councilor Davis)

1. **1st Reading:** REZN-07-25-1259: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **6821 Mobley Road** (parcel # 190-014-020) from Single Family Residential – 1 (SFR1) Zoning District to Single Family Residential – 2 (SFR2) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.)(Councilor Davis)

City Attorney's Agenda #2: Vote Result: AMENDED to add the following nine (9) conditions: (1) maximum building height if 45-feet, (2) the subject property shall revert back to the zoning at the time of application if developer does not construct and maintain subject property as shown on approved site plan within 24 months of adoption of this ordinance, (3) developer must use concrete composite wood material or brick on exterior of all buildings, (4) developer or successor in interest shall maintain a 50-foot natural undisturbed buffer on all property lines, (5) all lighting shall be LED and directed downward internally on the subject property, (6) the approved landscape plan shall be maintained by developer or successor in interest, (7) a minimum 6-foot high privacy fence of wood or black chain link shall be erected and maintained by developer or successor and interest, (8) all trash dumpsters shall be emptied only between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and (9) only one (1) three-story building shall be permitted in Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the development.

2. **1st Reading:** REZN-02-26-0189: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **5306 Buena Vista Road** (parcel # 095-045-019) from Single Family Residential – 2 (SFR2) Zoning District to Residential Multifamily – 1 (RMF1) Zoning District with conditions. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Tucker)
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City Attorney's Agenda #3: PUBLIC HEARING HELD

3. **1st Reading:** REZN-02-26-0346: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **9055 Veterans Parkway** (parcel # 079-001-034) from Residential Office (RO) Zoning District to Residential Estate - 1 (RE1)(Planning Department and PAC recommend approval)(Councilor Davis)

RESOLUTIONS

City Attorney's Agenda #4: Vote Result: APPROVED

4. A resolution approving a Special Exception to allow for a Tattoo Studio in the existing building located at **1023 Broadway** located in the Central Riverfront (CRD) zoning district. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Cogle)
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City Attorney's Agenda (Add-On Resolution) Vote Result: APPROVED

RESOLUTION: A Resolution delaying any first reading of the Technology Overlay District amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance for up to 45 days. **(ADD-ON)**

PUBLIC AGENDA

1. Mr. Timothy Veals, Re: School Zone Signs, Neighborhood Property Owners, Responsibility of Landlords to Clean Up Properties ***Not Present***
2. Mr. Joshua Broomfield, Re: Inclusion of Local and Minority Businesses in Major Projects. ***No Action Taken***
3. Mr. Paul Olson, Re: Public Agenda, Open Meetings Act, and the Planning Advisory Commission (PAC). ***Not Present***
4. Mr. Gregory Foster, Re: The Ugly Truth About the *Stop Hypercycle Data Centers in Muscogee County Group*. ***No Action Taken***
5. Mr. Daniel Veach, Re: Proposed Data Center. ***Not Present***
6. Mrs. Jessica Warchal, Re: Who are the purveyors of misinformation? ***No Action Taken***
7. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Correct Care, Crime Prevention Department Reforms. (*Referral from Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities*) ***No Action Taken***
8. Mr. Joshua Ferguson, Re: Business Development, Public Goods, and the Signal that Columbus Sends. ***Not Present***
9. Mr. Scott Johnson, Re: Proposed Data Center for AI. ***Not Present***
10. Mr. Matthew Davidson, Re: Inconsistencies in Zoning Overlay for Data Center. ***Not Present***
11. Ms. Sophia Rother, Re: Moratorium or Send to Ballot – Zoning Overlay for Data Center. ***No Action Taken***
12. Dr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Board Appointment Concerns. ***No Action Taken***
13. Dr. Natalie Nicole, representing Role Model Academy, Re: Fight Blight Columbus, GA Initiative. ***No Action Taken***
14. Ms. Inja Gordon, representing Haygood (Boxing Gym) Recreation Center, Re: Community Legacy, Exposure & Athletic Funding, and Accessibility Alignment. ***No Action Taken***
15. Ms. Pamela Mulvaney, Re: Data Center, Tech and Environmental Concerns. ***No Action Taken***
16. Ms. Patricia Stephens, Re: Patterns in Economics. ***No Action Taken***
17. Mrs. Debra Jarzomjoski, Re: Contradictions of Politics. ***No Action Taken***
18. Mrs. Darlene Laird, Re: Proposed Technology Overlay District. ***No Action Taken***
19. Mr. Val McGowan, Re: Civility and Good Trouble. ***No Action Taken***

20. Mrs. Audrey Holston Palmore, Re: Heir Property. *No Action Taken*

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

City Manager's Agenda #1: Vote Result: APPROVED

1. Sidewalk and Maintenance Easement Deed for Additional Right-of-Way Adjacent to Manchester Expressway and Armour Road

Approval is requested to accept two Easement Deeds for Sidewalks: 1) from the Columbus Airport Commission, being in that portion of Land Lot 48 of the 8th District, 27.14 sq. ft. 0.001 Acres, adjacent to Manchester Expressway, 2) from the Baynes Family LLC, being in that portion of Land Lot 48, 8th District, 290.88 Sq. Feet 0.007 Acres adjacent to Manchester Expressway, and 609.22 Sq. Feet 0.014 Acres Adjacent to Armour Road southwest property line.

City Manager's Agenda #2: Vote Result: APPROVED

2. Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Grant Program

Approval is requested for the to apply for, accept, and expend any awarded funds as per the grant guidelines and City regulations, if awarded, a grant from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation grant program that provides lifesaving equipment and prevention education tools to first responders and public safety organizations, in the amount of \$40,000, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match required, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund budget by the amount of the award.

3. PURCHASES

City Manager's Agenda #4(A-F): Vote Result: APPROVED

- A. Construction Manager as General Contractor Services for Public Safety Building Renovations – RFP No. 26-0016
- B. Provision and Installation of Lighting Upgrade for Cooper Creek Tennis Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase
- C. Memorandum of Agreement for Mental Health Services for Muscogee County Prison
- D. Retrofit/Upgrade of Bomb Squad Robot for EMA/Homeland Security

4. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Parks & Recreation Update - Holli Browder, Director Parks & Recreation *No Action Taken*

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES – ACTION REQUESTED

Clerk of Council's Agenda #1: Vote Result: RECIEVED

1. **Resignation:** Correspondence received from Avianca C. Dowdell, resigning from her seat on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (KCBC).

Clerk of Council's Agenda #1: Vote Result: APPROVED

2. **Travel Authorization Request:** Approval is requested for Councilor Toyia Tucker to attend the 2026 ACCG Annual Conference, scheduled for April 23-26, 2026.

Clerk of Council's Agenda #3: Vote Result: RECEIVED

3. **Minutes of the following boards:**

Board of Historic and Architectural Review 12-11-23

Board of Historic and Architectural Review 07-08-24, 10-15-24

Board of Historic and Architectural Review 09-08-25, 10-14-25

Board of Tax Assessors #10-26, 11-26, 12-26

Board of Water Commissioners 02-09-26

Development Authority of Columbus 02-12-26, 02-24-26

New Horizon Behavioral Health 01-13-20, 04-13-20, 05-11-20, 06-08-20, 07-13-20, 11-09-20, 12-14-20

New Horizon Behavioral Health 01-09-23, 02-13-23, 03-13-23, 05-08-23, 06-12-23, 08-14-23, 09-11-23, 10-09-23, 12-11-23

New Horizon Behavioral Health 09-09-24, 10-14-24, 12-09-24

Clerk of Council's Agenda (Add-On): Vote Result: APPROVED

RESOLUTION: A Resolution excusing Councilor Bruce Huff from the March 31, 2026, Consent Agenda / Work Session. (ADD-ON)

Clerk of Council's Agenda (Add-On): Vote Result: APPROVED

RESOLUTION: A Resolution excusing Councilor Bruce Huff from the April 14, 2026, Regular Council Meeting. **(ADD-ON)**

BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED

4. MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS – ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:

Clerk of Council’s Agenda #4(A): No Action Taken

A. PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES’ BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Vacant
(Business Community)
Term Expires: June 30, 2026

Open for Nominations
(Mayor’s Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	4 Year	Term Limit: n/a
Meetings:	Monthly – 1 st Wednesday	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 9
Vacancies:	1	Senatorial District 29: 2

5. NOMINATIONS – CONFIRMED BY COUNCIL:

Clerk of Council’s Agenda #5(A): Vote Result: CONFIRMED

A. AIRPORT COMMISSION:

Vacant
Term Expires: December 31, 2026

Waiting on Nominee
(Confirmed by Council)

****The Airport Commission has submitted Daria Cruzen for confirmation.***

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	5 Year	Term Limit: n/a
Meetings:	Monthly – 4 th Wednesday	
Women:	1	Senatorial District 15: 3
Vacancies:	1	Senatorial District 29: 1

Clerk of Council's Agenda #5(B): No Action Taken

A. HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (BHAR):

Vacant
Columbus Homebuilders Association
Term Expires: January 31, 2028

Waiting on Nominee
(Confirmed by Council)

Vacant
Uptown Business Association
Term Expires: January 31, 2029
**Alan Udy is unable to serve currently. (Confirmed 02-10-2026)*

Waiting on Nominee
(Confirmed by Council)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	3 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Monthly – 2 nd Monday	
Women:	5	Senatorial District 15: 7
Vacancies:	2	Senatorial District 29: 2

6. NOMINATIONS – READY FOR CONFIRMATION:

Clerk of Council's Agenda #6(A): Vote Result: CONFIRMED

A. DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS: Laura Gower was nominated to serve another term. New term expires: 04/30/2030 *(Mayor Pro Tem Allen)*

Clerk of Council's Agenda #6(B): Vote Result: CONFIRMED

B. DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS: Doug Jenkins was nominated to serve another term. New term expires: 04/30/2030 *(Mayor Pro Tem Allen)*

7. COUNCIL DISTRICT SEAT APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:

Clerk of Council's Agenda #7(A): No Action Taken

A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Vacant
Term Expires: March 27, 2026

Open for Nominations
(District 1 – Hickey)

Tracy Belt

Not Eligible

Term Expires: March 27, 2026

Open for Nominations
(District 4 -Tucker)

Vacant

Term Expires: March 27, 2026

Open for Nominations
(District 5 – Crabb)

Vacant

Term Expires: March 27, 2026

Open for Nominations
(District 9 -Anker)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms: 3 Year (Mayor Appts); 2 Year (Council Appts) Term Limit: 2

Meetings: Quarterly – 2nd Thursday (March, June, September & December)

Women: 4 Senatorial District 15: 7

Vacancies: 2 Senatorial District 29: 3

Clerk of Council’s Agenda #7(B): No Action Taken

B. PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION:

Paul T. Berry, III

Eligible

Term Expired: October 31, 2025

****Not interested in serving another term.***

Open for Nominations
(District 5 – Crabb)

Scott Taft

Not Eligible

Term Expired: October 31, 2025

Open for Nominations
(District 9 – Anker)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms: 3 Year Term Limit: 2

Meetings: Monthly – 3rd Thursday

Women: 3 Senatorial District 15: 4

Vacancies: 0 Senatorial District 29: 3

8. COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS – ANY NOMINATIONS WOULD BE LISTED FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

Clerk of Council’s Agenda #8(A): No Action Taken

A. ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:

Vacant
(Georgia Veterinary Technician)
Term Expires: October 15, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Vacant
(Animal Rescue Shelter Representative)
Term Expires: October 15, 2026
Recommendations are submitted by a licensed animal shelter.

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Note: The Animal Control Advisory Board is currently developing recommendations for Council’s consideration regarding the board’s composition.

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	2 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Semiannually	
Women:	7	Senatorial District 15: 3
Vacancies:	3	Senatorial District 29: 4

Clerk of Council’s Agenda #8(B): No Action Taken

B. BOARD OF HEALTH:

Yasmine Cathright
Not Eligible
Term Expires: December 31, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	5 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Monthly – 4 th Wednesday	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 0
Vacancies:	1	Senatorial District 29: 5

Clerk of Council’s Agenda #8(C): No Action Taken

C. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

Vacant

Term Expires: March 24, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	2 Year	Term Limit: n/a
Meetings:	As needed.	
Women:	1	Senatorial District 15: 1
Vacancies:	1	Senatorial District 29: 3

Clerk of Council's Agenda #8(D): No Action Taken

D. LIBERTY THEATRE & CULTURAL ARTS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:

Vacant

Term Expired: August 14, 2026

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Vacant

Term Expired: August 14, 2026

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Vacant

Term Expired: August 14, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Civic Center Director Recommendation / Confirmed by Council)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	4 Year	Term Limit: 3
Meetings:	Bimonthly – 2nd Thursday (January, March, May, July, September & November)	
Women:	5	Senatorial District 15: 4
Vacancies:	4	Senatorial District 29: 4

Clerk of Council's Agenda #8(E): No Action Taken

E. NEW HORIZONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH – MENTAL HEALTH, ADDICTIVE DISEASES AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES- COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD:

Judge David Ranieri

Does not desire reappointment

Term Expired: June 30, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	3 Year	Term Limit: n/a
Meetings:	Monthly – 2nd Monday	
Women:	2	Senatorial District 15: 2
Vacancies:	0	Senatorial District 29: 1

Clerk of Council’s Agenda #8(F): No Action Taken

F. PERSONNEL REVIEW BOARD:

Vacant
(Alternate Member 1)
 Term expires: December 31, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Vacant
(Alternate Member 2)
 Term expires: December 31, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Vacant
(Alternate Member 3)
 Term expires: December 31, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Delano Leftwich
Not Eligible
(Alternate Member 4)
 Term expired: December 31, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Council’s Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	3 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Monthly – 3rd Wednesday	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 2
Vacancies:	4	Senatorial District 29: 4

COUNCIL HEARINGS:

Clerk of Council’s Agenda #9: Vote Result: INCONCLUSIVE

- Request for refund of property taxes as submitted by Mr. Andrew Ruh, Executive Director of Columbus Botanical Garden, for property located in Columbus, Georgia in the amount of

\$28,706.62. (NOTE: Request for waiver of penalty and interest on property tax in the amount of \$7,935.60 was approved by Council on 03/24/2026. Property taxes for years 2023, 2024, and 2025 were paid in full on 03/25/2026.)

PUBLIC AGENDA (continued)

4. Mr. Gregory Foster, Re: The Ugly Truth About the *Stop Hypercycle Data Centers in Muscogee County Group*. ***No Action Taken***
7. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Correct Care, Crime Prevention Department Reforms. (*Referral from Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities*) ***No Action Taken***
12. Dr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Board Appointment Concerns. ***No Action Taken***
20. Mrs. Audrey Holston Palmore, Re: Heir Property. ***No Action Taken***
13. Dr. Natalie Nicole, representing Role Model Academy, Re: Fight Blight Columbus, GA Initiative. ***No Action Taken***

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Skip Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Garrett to adjourn the April 14, 2026, Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilors Cogle, Davis and Hickey being absent for the vote, and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting, with the time being 1:41 p.m.