

AN ORDINANCE

No. _____

An ordinance amending ordinance 98-30, 00-106, 01-29, and 08-69 for the re adoption of the existing Enterprise Zone known as the Columbus Business Development Center for a ten-year period; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, the Council of Columbus, Georgia proposes to readopt the existing boundaries of the Enterprise Zone, which is contiguous and meets the requirements of the Enterprise Zone Employment Act of 1997 as amended in 1999.

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1.

That the Council hereby readopts the area described in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein as an Enterprise Zone to be known as the "Columbus Business Development Center" for a ten-year period ending December 31, 2028.

SECTION 2.

That the Council finds the area meets the qualifications of the Act.

SECTION 3.

That the Council hereby ordains and declares that upon renewal and update of the area as an Enterprise Zone, the Consolidated Government shall continue providing the following incentives in the area, including tax incentives, to qualifying businesses in accordance with the definition of such businesses outlined in the Act, which are not applicable throughout the city:

(a) The Consolidated Government shall exempt qualifying businesses as outlined in the Act and further in Exhibit B, from state, county, and municipal ad valorem property taxes, excluding property taxes imposed by school districts, that would otherwise be levied on the qualifying business and service enterprises in accordance with the following schedule:

- (i) One hundred percent of the property taxes shall be exempt for the first five years;
- (ii) Eighty percent of the property taxes shall be exempt for the next two years;

- (iii) Sixty percent of the property taxes shall be exempt for the next year;
- (iv) Forty percent of the property taxes shall be exempt for the next year; and
- (v) Twenty percent of the property taxes shall be exempt for the last year.

(b) Other incentives that may be granted will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis by the Columbus Consolidated Government through the Planning Department and could include exemption from any or all of the following:

- (i) Building Permit Fees
- (ii) Sign Permit Fees
- (iii) Business License Administrative Fee
- (iv) Rezoning Fees
- (v) Engineering Fees
- (vi) Other local fees authorized by Council, as applicable

SECTION 4.

That the Council is the authorized agency to act in all matters pertaining to the Enterprise Zone and reserves the power to grant the incentives listed above to qualifying businesses in accordance with the authorization powers granted local governments in the administration of the Enterprise Zone in the Act.

SECTION 5.

That the Council further directs and designates its Planning Department Director as liaison for communication with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs; the Georgia Department of Industry, Trade, and Tourism; the business community; and all others to oversee Enterprise Zone activities and administration, and communications with qualified businesses, as outlined in Exhibit B.

SECTION 6.

That the Council has the power to administer, require, and enforce compliance with the provisions of the ordinance and such administrative rules or regulations adopted hereinafter by way of resolution or as contained in Exhibit B, including but not limited to reports and data information from businesses within the Enterprise Zone to verify compliance with this ordinance and state law.

SECTION 7.

That a qualifying business or service enterprise, or residential development shall consent to enter into a contractual

agreement that outlines the incentives offered to the business and a guideline for the recapture, revocation, or reimbursement should the terms of the contract be violated by the target business.

SECTION 8.

That this ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the Council.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____, 2018, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting	_____
Councilor Baker	voting	_____
Councilor Barnes	voting	_____
Councilor Davis	voting	_____
Councilor Garrett	voting	_____
Councilor House	voting	_____
Councilor Huff	voting	_____
Councilor Pugh	voting	_____
Councilor Thomas	voting	_____
Councilor Woodson	voting	_____

LINDSEY GLISSON
DEPUTY CLERK OF COUNCIL

TERESA PIKE TOMLINSON
MAYOR