

RESOLUTION NO.: R-2020-062

*City of Columbia, South Carolina Support of Fair, Direct Federal Emergency  
Support to Reopen and Rebuild Local American Economies*

WHEREAS, America's cities, towns and villages face unprecedented threats due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic emergency; and,

WHEREAS, municipalities are essential to America's economic recovery and without funding support for local governments, municipalities may go from being a critical part of the economic solution, to becoming a major obstacle to long-term stabilization and recovery; and,

WHEREAS, America's cities, towns and villages will experience budgetary shortfalls of up \$134 billion in fiscal year 2020 alone, and the negative effects of the pandemic emergency on local communities will continue long after this year; and,

WHEREAS, three million critical municipal worker jobs are at risk, threatening cuts to basic community services, including 9-1-1 response, sanitation, and maintenance; and,

WHEREAS, communities have taken extraordinary measures to protect health, safety, and the continuation of essential services throughout the emergency; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia, South Carolina, its citizens and businesses have been directly impacted by the COVID-19 shutdowns of local businesses and stay at home orders, which have resulted in temporary and permanent business closures, employee layoffs, and unprecedented long lasting financial hardships; and,

WHEREAS, America's rural communities and small towns are struggling just as much as big cities and risk being left behind or wiped out entirely; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia, South Carolina this 2nd day of June, 2020 that the City of Columbia, South Carolina calls on Congress to allocate fair and direct federal support to all of America's communities, regardless of population size; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this funding must be flexible and address not only the additional expenses incurred by communities to respond to the pandemic emergency, but also the dramatic budgetary shortfalls resulting from pauses in commerce, tourism, other economic engines; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that local governments will ensure federal funds are immediately used to rebuild and reopen the national economy; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding will keep middle class workers employed and critical services operating; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Columbia, South Carolina has been part of the emergency response and now calls on Congress to build a united national partnership for a safe, healthy, prosperous life.

Requested by:

Councilmember Devine

  
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Mayor

Approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

Approved as to form:

T. A. Knox

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney  
Introduced: 6/2/2020  
Final Reading: 6/2/2020

ATTEST:

  
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City Clerk