

# Legislative Resolution

KKF

EESW

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ - 2026

**DECLARING** the necessity of assessing for the control of blight and disease of shade trees within the public right-of-way, and for planting, care, maintenance, trimming, and removing shade trees in and along the streets of the City of Cincinnati Urban Forestry Maintenance District for calendar year 2027.

WHEREAS, the City of Cincinnati created an Urban Forestry Maintenance District for the purpose of controlling the blight and disease of shade trees within the public right-of-way, and for the planting, care, and maintenance of shade trees as authorized by Ohio Revised Code Section 727.011, including without limitation the estimated cost of capital improvements, equipment, personnel, and maintenance to support the Urban Forestry Maintenance District; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners operates the Urban Forestry Program by maintaining and creating a healthy and equitably distributed urban tree canopy to foster the mental and physical health benefits that trees provide for all Cincinnati residents through the reduction of neighborhood heat islands, combined sewer overflow events, and poor air quality attributed to the concentration of fine particulate matter which poses the greatest health risks to the residents of Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners, by motion on December 18, 2025, urged the continuation of the Urban Forestry Program in accordance with the plans, estimates, and schedules currently filed with the Clerk of Council; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners recommends levying an assessment of \$0.31 per front foot to fund the Urban Forestry Program, which is the same rate as the prior year, for total revenue of about \$3,500,000 per year to be assessed on the property tax rolls in calendar year 2027 and collected for use in the Urban Forestry Program's Fiscal Year 2028 budget; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That it is hereby declared necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience, safety, and welfare to continue the Urban Forestry Program for the control of blight and disease of shade trees within public right-of-way, and for the planting, care, maintenance, trimming, and removing of shade trees in and along the streets of the City of Cincinnati, including

without limitation the estimated cost of capital improvements, equipment, personnel, and maintenance to support the Urban Forestry Maintenance District, which includes all territory within, and coextensive with, the City's boundaries, for calendar year 2027.

Section 2. That the plans and estimates of costs to fund the Urban Forestry Program, now on file with the Clerk of Council, are hereby approved.

Section 3. That the City of Cincinnati shall pay at least two percent of the total cost and expense of the Urban Forestry Program and assume the costs for intersections and uncollectible assessments against state and federally owned property. The assessment shall be by the front foot method, at the rate of \$0.31 per front foot, upon all lots and lands bounding and abutting public rights-of-way in the Urban Forestry Maintenance District.

Section 4. That the assessment shall be paid in cash to the City Treasurer within thirty days after the passage of the assessing ordinance. Assessments not paid in cash within the period shall be certified by the proper City of Cincinnati official to the Hamilton County Auditor for collection and shall be paid in one annual installment, at the same time and in the same manner as real property taxes due and payable in December 2026.

Section 5. That the City of Cincinnati does not intend to issue securities in anticipation of the levy or collection of the assessment.

Section 6. That the City Administration shall prepare, in accordance with the method of assessment set forth in Section 3 hereof, an estimate of the amount of the assessment against each lot or parcel to be assessed, and shall file it in the Office of the Clerk of Council.

Section 7. That notice of the passage of this resolution shall be given pursuant to Sections 727.13 and 727.14 of the Ohio Revised Code, as appropriate.

Section 8. That this legislative resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk

**2027 (FY28) Street Tree Program  
Recommended Budget Report**

**Expense Descriptions:**

**Personnel – \$1,552,298.40**

Salary and fringes for 25% Division Manager of Natural Resources, 25% Senior GIS Analyst, Urban Forestry Supervisor, four Urban Forestry Specialists, one Administrative Technician, one part-time Park Specialist for administrative assistance, and the Urban Forestry tree crew (Maintenance Crew Leader, one Lead Arborist, two Arborist 2's, and two Arborist 1's, one part-time Park Specialist)

**Capital Equipment – \$70,000.00**

Capital equipment – Held for possible replacement pickup truck, otherwise will be added to the reserve.

**Contractual Maintenance**

**Emergency – \$500,000**

Emergency response and routine street tree maintenance between pruning cycles. Majority of removals and prunes less than 20" diameter will be completed by in-house tree crews.

**Preventive – \$570,000**

Conduct routine pruning cycle for neighborhoods of Clifton, East Westwood, English Woods, Millvale, South Cumminsville, North Fairmount, South Fairmount, Villages at Roll Hill, Avondale, North Avondale, East Price Hill, and Lower Price Hill. Prunes less than 8" diameter will be completed by in-house tree crews.

**Stump Grinding - \$75,000**

Contractual stump grinding of approximately 400 stumps annually.

**Planting & Young Tree Maintenance – \$450,000**

**Comprehensive Planting** – replace trees removed in all communities and conduct targeted plantings in communities of need as determined by the 2020 Urban Tree Canopy Analysis (900 plantings est.).

**Materials and Supplies – \$163,000.00**

Municipal Garage costs, fuel/fleet repairs, utilities, training, office supplies, tree care equipment and materials for crews, CAGIS & MAXIMO licenses.

**Recommended 2027 ASSESSMENT BUDGET (FY28)**

Urban Forestry Street Tree Program

Cincinnati Park Board Division of Natural Resources

Assessment rate: \$0.31/ft

EXPENSES		Proposed FY 2028 Budget
Personnel		\$1,522,298.40
Capital Equipment		\$70,000.00
Contractual Maintenance		\$1,595,000.00
Emergency	\$500,000.00	
Preventive	\$570,000.00	
Stump Grinding	\$75,000.00	
Planting	\$450,000.00	
Materials & Supplies		\$163,000.00
Training + Travel	\$14,000.00	
Fleet (Repair + Fuel)	\$40,000.00	
Utilities+Phones	\$23,000.00	
Advertisement	\$3,000.00	
Office Supplies	\$5,000.00	
Hort.+Small Equip	\$10,000.00	
CAGIS Annual Licenses	\$28,000.00	
Maximo Work Order System	\$40,000.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$3,350,298.40</b>
REVENUE @\$0.31/FF		\$3,502,139.75
Anticipated Delinquencies		(\$100,000.00)
Fund 792 assessment revenue		\$3,402,139.75
Reserve		\$51,841.35