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Meeka D. Owens
Cincinnati City Council

February 28, 2023

MOTION

Strategic Alignment of OneOhio Settlement Allocations

WE MOVE that the City Administration provide a strategic alignment report in coordination with the priorities and strategies outlined by the OneOhio Region 2 Foundation Governance Board. The report should provide recommendations for both short-term and long-term use of the OneOhio Settlement Funds that have been and will be disbursed, outlining how the City's portion can be used to benefit City residents. These recommendations should be made to complement the allocations by the OneOhio Region 2 Board and Hamilton County. Funds should be used to support projects or initiatives that are highly-leveragable and able to obtain funding from other sources as well.

WE FURTHER MOVE that this report be submitted to Council in the next sixty (60) days.

Councilmember Meeka D. Owens

President Pro Tempore Victoria Parks

STATEMENT

In March 2020, the State of Ohio and local governments throughout the state organized the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding. This MOU gives the local governments of Ohio, including Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati, a direct role in allocating funds from the opioid lawsuit settlement proceeds and implementing strategies for community recovery from the opioid crisis. In addition, the MOU established a mechanism to disburse settlement payments. Funds can be used for numerous purposes under the MOU, including prevention, treatment, recovery, public awareness, criminal justice, or other crucial services.

As part of the R2 Board's work, several subcommittees were created to make recommendations related to four priority areas: Prevention, Treatment, Addressing the Needs of Criminal Justice Involved (with a subset for First Responders), and Recovery Housing. The Hamilton County Addiction Response Coalition recommended the following services and allocations: Treatment / Recovery 60%; Prevention 10%; Interdiction 10%; Harm Reduction 10%; Faith Community 5%; and Business Community 5%.

The time to act is now as the settlement funds become available. Already, the City of Cincinnati has already received three payments for an overall total of \$537,940.34.¹ It is imperative that as a City we are working with our regional partners to make the most impact with the funds distributed to the region. Over the last several months, the OneOhio Region 2 Recovery Foundation Governance Board (“R2 Board”), which includes Cincinnati and Hamilton County, has been organizing to establish priorities and best practices for allocating these funds.

¹ The first two payments were from the settlement with McKesson, Cardinal, and AmerisourceBergen. \$166,157.75 was received from the first payment and \$174,623.69 from the second payment, for a total of \$340,781.44. There will be a total of 18 payments from the settlement, which should total more than \$3.0 million over the 18 years. An additional, one-time payment of \$197,158.90 was received from Janssen; other one-time payments are anticipated to be made to the City over time.