

## **EMERGENCY**

**MSS**

**- 2025**

**AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$10,000,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Solar for All grant program (ALN 66.959), as a subrecipient through Growth Opportunity Partners, to Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 to provide resources for accelerated, transformational deployment of equipment to facilitate the availability of solar energy in low-income neighborhoods; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into Environment and Sustainability Fund revenue account no. 436x8543, Office of Environment and Sustainability project account no. 25EPASFA, “FY 2025 EPA Solar for All Grant.”

WHEREAS, a grant of up to \$10,000,000 is available to the City from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Solar for All grant program (ALN 66.959), as a subrecipient of Growth Opportunity Partners, to provide resources for accelerated, transformational deployment of equipment to facilitate the availability of solar energy in low-income neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, this grant would enable the City to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants; deliver the benefits of greenhouse gas emission reduction and air pollution reduction projects to American communities, particularly to low-income and disadvantaged communities; and stimulate the further deployment of greenhouse gas emission and air pollution reduction projects; and

WHEREAS, with the cost of electricity increasing, this grant seeks to reduce the utility costs communities are facing; and

WHEREAS, the City intends to use grant resources to support solar energy development to power communities with limited opportunities to access clean energy; and

WHEREAS, this grant supports the implementation of the Green Cincinnati Plan, and advances the goal of the City to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050; and

WHEREAS, Growth Opportunity Partners was the lead applicant of the Industrial Heartland Solar Coalition multi-state application for the grant; and

WHEREAS, the City signed a letter in support of Growth Opportunity Partners’ application on September 29, 2023, and Growth Opportunity Partners, having been selected as a grant recipient, has selected the City as one of eighteen subrecipients, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by Council; and

WHEREAS, this grant does not require matching resources, and there are no FTE/full time equivalents associated with this grant; and

WHEREAS, deploying solar energy investments for underserved communities is in accordance with the “Sustain” goal to “[b]ecome a healthier Cincinnati” and strategy to “[c]reate a healthy environment and reduce energy consumption” as described on pages 181-185 of Plan Cincinnati (2012); now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That the City Manager is authorized to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$10,000,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Solar for All grant program (ALN 66.959), as a subrecipient of Growth Opportunity Partners, to Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 to provide resources for accelerated, transformational deployment of equipment to facilitate the availability of solar energy in low-income neighborhoods.

Section 2. That the Director of Finance is authorized to deposit the grant resources into Environment and Sustainability Fund revenue account no. 436x8543, Office of Environment and Sustainability project account no. 25EPASFA, “FY 2025 EPA Solar for All Grant.”

Section 3. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the terms of the grant and Sections 1 and 2.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare and shall, subject to the terms of Article II, Section 6 of the Charter, be effective immediately. The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept and appropriate grant funds to meet established project timelines.

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

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Aftab Pureval, Mayor

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

Clerk

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