



Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney
Councilmember

MOTION

WE MOVE that City Council allocate \$350,000 from the capital budget to the non-profit organization, The Mark, created by the community of Evanston, to assist with the stabilization and purchase of the St. Mark Church structure, 3500 Montgomery Road in Evanston. The edifice will be used by community resource groups and as a community space for cultural, artistic, and neighborhood events.

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STATEMENT

The Mark is a 501(c)(3) created by residents of Evanston to purchase and then transform the St. Mark Church building into a cultural, artistic, and neighborhood hub with tenant stakeholders that will attract members and clientele from throughout Greater Cincinnati. The Mark Board of Directors has requested \$350,000 to assist with physical stabilization of the building for a total of \$350,000. St. Mark Church was built more than 115 years ago but has not been in use since the church's last service in 2010. The Evanston Community Council completed a 10-year plan for 2019-2029 to enhance the Evanston neighborhood. The preservation and reactivation of the St. Mark Church building is a top priority in the plan. The structure includes 35,682 square feet of activity space and will be used as a community center to benefit the neighborhood and the region. The Mark will solicit a combination of public and private funding to assist with further renovation.