



Mark Jeffreys
Councilmember

202601970

Communication: FY 2027 Budget Priorities

June 5th, 2026

This communication outlines my Fiscal Year 2027 priorities and proposed adjustments. Available funding includes \$7,056,000 in capital funds and \$1,290,000 in operating funding.

Capital

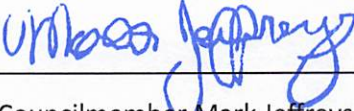
Item	Amount	Notes
Street repaving	\$4.5M	DOTe is only able to repave 2% of city streets and 70 lane miles (vs target 100 lane miles). At this rate it will take them 50 years to repave all roads vs 15-30 years needed. This redirects the proposed funding for the Farmer Music Center to street repaving. The Farmer project will be an incredible asset. The administration analysis indicated that a city investment was not needed to move it forward & that MEMI has other assets to tap to make it happen. Given the condition of our roads, this prioritizes that investment.
Lead paint abatement—home improvement	\$1M	~1K kids/year are lead poisoned in Cincinnati. This investment is a part of a larger initiative to remove lead paint from homes with children under six years old living in them. It will be supported by Greater Cincinnati Foundation matching the investment so the impact is amplified.
Stormwater prevention in vulnerable communities	\$750K *\$250K in Cincy on Track Funds	Neighborhoods such as in the Mill Creek Valley, Evanston, etc. have been experiencing runoff for years. This would implement public infrastructure through Groundwork Ohio River Valley (employing youth) on the blocks with the highest runoff issues e.g. rain gardens, bioswale, etc. This is an issue that has been raised by CUFA for years. Projects located on city-owned property may be eligible for Cincy on Track funding.
Westwood public safety	\$640K	Funding needed to complete pedestrian safety and streetscaping (lighting, trees, etc) on the west end of the business district – extending the business district. This supports the positive momentum in Westwood, the city’s most populated neighborhood and furthers economic growth.
Lighting in parks – priority West End	\$170K	Redirecting remaining unspent funds to specific parks outlined by the administration in Report 202601704 in need of lighting to keep kids and families safe. Priority on West End.

Wasson Way/ Mill Creek Trail	\$191K	This is for the acquisition of land to connect the Wasson Way to Otto Armleder Park & a small portion of the Mill Creek Trail to help complete those connections.
Artsville Madisonville	\$200K *Cincy on Track funds	Artsville is an important institution that supports the community and gives youth a constructive outlet. Their building is city-owned so this is an investment into a public facility; it includes a bathroom and infrastructure for the theater.
Total	\$7,001,000	

Operating – From \$1M Cannabis Tax Fund

Item	Amount	Notes
Neighborhood Jobs Van	\$210K	This funds a joint program with City Gospel Mission and Keep Cincinnati Beautiful for a Neighborhood Job Van Initiative to provide those panhandling with a job cleaning up litter in our city neighborhoods outside Downtown & OTR.
Safe & Clean	\$279K	This restores Safe & Clean funding to continue operations, including a 5% reduction due to this year's budget constraints.
Boots on the Ground	\$215K	This gets the Boots on the Ground Fund closer to last year's allocation, including a 5% reduction, to deliver services for public safety and community support.
Red Bike	\$97K	This gets Red Bike up to the \$150K commitment that the City of Cincinnati made in Resolution 202500235 by City Council, on which other donors will supplement.
Cincy Tech	\$167K	This restores funding to last year's allocation, including a 5% reduction due to this year's budget constraints.
Cintrifuse	\$167K	This restores funding similar to last year's allocation, including a 5% reduction due to this year's budget constraints.
Mortar	\$35K	This does not fully restore Mortar, but gets it closer, which is a fair reduction given the budget reductions in city operations.
Invest in Neighborhoods	\$70K	This gets Invest in Neighborhoods closer to the city's investment in the current fiscal year.
Expungement	\$50K	Now that cannabis is legal, this gives those impacted by when it was illegal a "clean slate" opportunity as is legally allowed now through expungement clinics and legal assistance to those without a way to pay for it.
Total	\$1,290,000	

Separately, I'm proposing a motion asking the administration to create a restricted account – Harm to Hope – starting in FY 2027 to ensure the cannabis funding is dedicated back into the communities most impacted when cannabis was illegal.



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