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Meeka D. Owens
Cincinnati City Council

January 22nd, 2025

American Sign Museum Solar Conversion Capital Project

WE MOVE that the administration provide a report within two (2) weeks review the American Sign Museum's Solar Conversion Project for possible usage from the Capital Project Fund. This report should include a brief summary of the project, past asks for funding and administrative support of the project by the City of Cincinnati, any additional information the city administration deems pertinent to the project, and a final recommendation by the administration as to whether or not fund the project.

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Councilmember Meeka D. Owens

STATEMENT

The American Sign Museum, named in February 2024 as the #5 Pop Culture Museum in the Country, has become a staple of the Camp Washington neighborhood during its 25 years of operation. This incredible city amenity holds over 1,000 signs and objects on display, welcomes over 68,000 visitors annually, with 60% of those visitors coming from outside of the Cincinnati region.

Recently the Museum embarked on a capital expansion project which doubled the size of its facility to 40,000 square feet, created an 8,000 square foot classroom area for education purposes, and the largest sign-related library in the country.

The American Sign Museum is yet again looking for ways to grow in innovation and creativity by converting to solar power. Due to the number of light components on its signs, the Museum's average monthly electric bill can run as high as \$7,000. Through this project the American Sign Museum which is in a Justice 40 area of our city, where 70% are energy burdened, 72% are housing burdened, and 77% of residents live below 200% Federal Poverty Line, the museum aims to become the first Cincinnati-area Museum to convert to solar power. aligning closely with the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan. This neighborhood takes pride in the American Sign Museum and this project will reenforce that neighborhood pride.

DR
1-22-23
CAL

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