November 30, 2022

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager   202202116

Subject: **Emergency Ordinance – DOTE: Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Grant for Traffic Calming**

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

> **ESTABLISHING** new capital improvement program project account nos. 980x232x232351, "Central & 8th Traffic Calming – Grant," for the purpose of providing Ohio Department of Transportation ("ODOT") grant resources for right of way improvements for traffic calming on Central Avenue at 8th Street; 980x232x232352, "Harrison & Ruehlman Traffic Calming – Grant," for the purpose of providing ODOT grant resources for right of way improvements for traffic calming on Harrison Avenue at Ruehlman Place; and 980x232x232353, "Harrison & Ruehlman Traffic Calming – TIF," for the purpose of providing tax increment financing resources for right of way improvements for traffic calming on Harrison Avenue at Ruehlman Place; AUTHORIZING the City Manager to accept a Highway Safety Improvement Program Systemic Safety grant (ALN 20.205) in an amount of up to $600,000 from ODOT, and appropriate an amount up to $300,000 to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x232351, "Central & 8th Traffic Calming – Grant," for the purpose of implementing right of way improvements for traffic calming on Central Avenue at 8th Street, and appropriate an amount up to $300,000 to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x232352, "Harrison & Ruehlman Traffic Calming – Grant," for the purpose of implementing right of way improvements for traffic calming on Harrison Avenue at Ruehlman Place; AUTHORIZING the transfer and appropriation of the sum of $90,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Westwood 1 Equivalent Fund 496 to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x232353, "Harrison & Ruehlman Traffic Calming – TIF; and DECLARING expenditures from capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x232353, "Harrison & Ruehlman Traffic Calming – TIF," to be for a public purpose because the project will improve pedestrian safety in the Westwood neighborhood.

This Emergency Ordinance does the following:

1. Establishes new capital improvement program project account nos. 980x232x232351, "Central & 8th Traffic Calming – Grant," for the purpose of providing Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) grant resources for right of way improvements for traffic calming on Central Avenue at 8th street; 980x232x232352, "Harrison & Ruehlman Traffic Calming – Grant," for the purpose of providing ODOT grant resources for right of way improvements for traffic calming on Harrison Avenue at Ruehlman; and 980x232x232353, "Harrison & Ruehlman Traffic Calming – TIF," for the purpose of providing tax increment financing resources for right of way improvement for traffic calming on Harrison Avenue at Ruehlman Place;

2. Authorizes the City Manager to accept a Highway Safety Improvement Program Systemic Safety grant (ALN 20.205) in an amount of up to $600,000 from ODOT and appropriate up to $300,000 to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x232351, "Central & 8th Traffic Calming – Grant," and appropriate an amount up to $300,000 to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x232352, "Harrision & Ruehlman Traffic Calming – Grant";
3. Authorizes the transfer and appropriation of the sum of $90,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Westwood 1 Equivalent Fund 496 to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x232353, "Harrison & Ruehlman Traffic Calming – TIF"; and
4. Declares expenditures from newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x232353, "Harrision & Ruehlman Traffic Calming – TIF," to be for a public purpose because the project will improve pedestrian safety in the Westwood neighborhood.

The City Council adopted Ordinance No. 0239-2017, which authorized the City Manager to apply for grants up to $500,000 awarded by the ODOT Highway Safety Improvement Program for the purpose of ensuring the timely completion of various safety improvement projects throughout the City. The City Council also adopted Ordinance No. 0026-2022, which authorized the City Manager to apply for a grant in the amount of up to $2,000,000 from the Highway Safety Improvement Program Systemic Safety Funding grant, administered by ODOT, for the purpose of implementing traffic calming improvements on Harrison Avenue between Kling Avenue and the corporate line. The Department of Transportation and Engineering (DOTE) submitted two grant applications and received a lump sum grant award of up to $600,000 from the ODOT Highway Safety Improvement Program Systemic Safety Funding program for the Central Avenue at 8th Street and Harrison Avenue at Ruehlman Place traffic calming projects, which will not be accepted without City Council approval.

A local match in the amount of up to $90,000 will be required for the traffic calming project at Central Avenue at 8th Street, which will come from existing "Neighborhood Transportation Strategies" and "Safety Improvements" capital improvement program project accounts. A local match in the amount of up to $90,000 will be required for the traffic calming project at Harrison Avenue at Ruehlman Place, which is anticipated to come from the unappropriated surplus of Westwood 1 Equivalent Fund 496. No new FTEs are associated with these grants.

The grant projects are in accordance with the "Connect" goal to "[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability" and strategy to "[p]lan, design, and implement a safe and sustainable transportation system," as described on pages 127-138 of Plan Cincinnati (2012)

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to begin project design work to meet ODOT deadlines.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Andrew M. Dudas, Budget Director
       Karen Alder, Finance Director

Attachments