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Mark Jeffreys
Councilmember

Motion: The Neighborhood Jobs Van – Work, Help, Hope

February 9th, 2026

WE MOVE that City Council allocate \$210,000 in funds from the Operating Contingencies Budget for FY'25 to fund a joint program with City Gospel & Keep Cincinnati Beautiful (KCB) for a Neighborhood Hope Job Van initiative – to provide those panhandling with a job cleaning up litter in our city neighborhoods outside of Downtown & OTR.

STATEMENT

The jobs van has been a part of Generosity 513, which has been a collaborative outreach program between 3CDC and City Gospel aimed at addressing panhandling by connecting individuals with services, work opportunities, and long-term pathways toward employment. The initiative has combined street outreach workers with programs that offer meaningful work, meals, and connections to shelter, employment, mental health, and substance-use resources.

3CDC has recently expanded their Downtown Ambassadors program, separate from GeneroCity513, creating an opportunity for the Jobs Van program to focus on other neighborhoods. At this time, there is no ongoing allocation of funds to support this impactful program. While litter clean-up needs in downtown and OTR are being met by the Downtown Ambassadors, the Jobs Van program is uniquely positioned to address multiple needs: reducing litter in neighborhoods outside of downtown and Over-The-Rhine, while providing individuals who panhandle in our city with dignity of gainful employment and connections to other City Gospel services.

The City Administration has been having discussions with KCB and City Gospel about their partnership – where KCB would provide the supplies, litter location needs and City Gospel would provide the van and access to services. The intent is that these individuals are those who are in public spaces asking for donations are identified through the city's 311 service and other city partners.

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