

**EMERGENCY**

CNS

-2024

**AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept a donation of up to \$850,000 from CincinnatiVTICA, LLC to support the operations and maintenance of the Cincinnati streetcar; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the donation into Streetcar Operations Fund revenue account no. 455x8645.

WHEREAS, the City constructed a modern streetcar project in downtown Cincinnati (“Streetcar”), which began passenger service in September 2016; and

WHEREAS, the City identified non-City funding sources to augment the resources available for operating and maintaining the Streetcar; and

WHEREAS, on November 19, 2014, Council passed a motion supporting the creation of a tax incentive contribution policy in certain neighborhoods to incentivize applicants for real property tax abatements to enter into Voluntary Tax Incentive Contribution Agreements (“VTICA”) to voluntarily contribute a portion of their abated tax savings to support the Streetcar; and

WHEREAS, the City is not a party to VTICA commitments, and payments made thereunder are managed and collected by a third party; and

WHEREAS, the City and the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (“SORTA”) cooperated with Downtown Cincinnati Inc., operating for this purpose as CincinnatiVTICA, LLC, (“CincinnatiVTICA”) to facilitate collection of VTICA payments by CincinnatiVTICA and application of such payments to the Streetcar; and

WHEREAS, the City and SORTA agreed to terminate SORTA’s role in management and operation of the Streetcar effective January 1, 2020, and the City now directly operates and manages the Streetcar; and

WHEREAS, CincinnatiVTICA wishes to donate the proceeds of the VTICA payments collected from July 1, 2023, until June 30, 2024, to the City to ensure that the funds will be used for operation and maintenance of the Streetcar; and

WHEREAS, accepting funds to support Streetcar maintenance and operations is in accordance with the “Connect” goal to “[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability” and the strategies to “[e]xpand options for non-automotive travel” and “[p]lan, design, and implement a safe and sustainable transportation system” as described on pages 129-133 and 135-137 of Plan Cincinnati (2012); now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the City Manager is authorized to accept a donation of up to \$850,000 from Cincinnati, LLC to operate and maintain the City's streetcar system.

Section 2. That the Director of Finance is authorized to deposit the donation into Streetcar Operations Fund revenue account no. 455x8645.

Section 3. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out Sections 1 and 2.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare and shall, subject to the terms of Article II, Section 6 of the Charter, be effective immediately. The reason for the emergency is the immediate need for the City to accept the donations to provide resources for the operation and maintenance of the streetcar system.

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk