



# City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

## Agenda - Final-revised

### Budget and Finance Committee

*Chairperson Reggie Harris*  
*Vice Chair Jeff Cramerding*  
*Councilmember Mark Jeffreys*  
*Councilmember Scotty Johnson*  
*Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Kearney*  
*Councilmember Anna Albi*  
*Councilmember Meeka Owens*  
*Councilmember Seth Walsh*  
*President Pro Tem Victoria Parks*

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Monday, April 8, 2024

1:00 PM

Council Chambers, Room 300

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#### AGENDA

#### TRANSFERS AND APPROPRIATIONS

1. [202400993](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY), submitted by Mayor Aftab Pureval and Councilmember Jeffreys, from Emily Smart Woerner, City Solicitor, AUTHORIZING the transfer and return to source of \$197,197.76 from capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222390, "Red Bike Program Expansion," to the unappropriated surplus of General Fund 050; and AUTHORIZING the transfer and appropriation of \$197,197.76 from the unappropriated surplus of General Fund 050 to the Department of Transportation and Engineering FY 2024 non-personnel operating budget account no. 050x232x7200 to provide one-time recourses for operating support to allow Red Bike d/b/a Cincy Bike Share, Inc. to continue to operate in the City. (Subject to the Temporary Prohibition List <<https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/law/ethics/city-business>>).

**Sponsors:** Mayor and Jeffreys

**Attachments:** [Transmittal](#)  
[Ordinance](#)

#### GRANTS

2. [202400994](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 4/3/2024, AUTHORIZING the City Manager to accept and appropriate a Compost & Food Waste Reduction Grant (ALN 10.935) of up to \$400,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture (the "USDA Grant") to support diverting food loss and waste from landfills, increasing food recovery and transformation, and creating compost; AUTHORIZING the Director of Finance to deposit the USDA Grant resources into Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 revenue

account no. 436x8543; AUTHORIZING the transfer and return to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund of \$100,000 from capital improvement program project account no. 980x104x231029, "Green Cincinnati Sustainability Initiatives - GF"; and AUTHORIZING the transfer of \$100,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 to provide matching resources for the USDA Grant.

**Sponsors:** City Manager

**Attachments:** [Transmittal](#)  
[Ordinance](#)

3. [202400995](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 4/3/2024, ESTABLISHING new capital improvement program project account nos. 980x233x242372, "WHV OKI STBG 2020 HC Match," 980x233x242373, "WHV OKI STBG 2021 HC Match," 980x233x242374, "WHV TRAC 2021 HC Match," and 980x233x242375, "WHV Earmark 2022 HC Match"; AUTHORIZING the City Manager to accept and appropriate contributions from Hamilton County up to \$3,500,000 to be used as fifty percent of the required local match for federal grants, in accordance with the attached Schedule of Appropriation; AUTHORIZING the Director of Finance to deposit up to \$3,500,000 from Hamilton County to the various newly established capital improvement program project accounts set forth in the attached Schedule of Appropriation; AMENDING Ordinance 8-2022 to reconcile a difference between Ordinance 8-2022 and the project grant agreement for the scheduled payment of funds awarded to the Western Hills Viaduct project; AUTHORIZING the City Manager to transfer and appropriate up to \$8,200,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 401, "Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants," to existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222392, "Western Hills Viaduct Transit Grant"; and AUTHORIZING the City Manager to do all things necessary and enter into any agreements necessary to accept these grant and matching resources.

**Sponsors:** City Manager

**Attachments:** [Transmittal](#)  
[Ordinance](#)  
[Attachment](#)

4. [202400996](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 4/3/2024, ESTABLISHING new capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, "Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint - LMB," to provide resources for the design, construction, and right-of-way acquisition associated with the major preventative maintenance work on the Hopple Street Viaduct; AUTHORIZING the City Manager to accept and appropriate a grant up

to \$9,040,000 from the Ohio Department of Transportation Local Major Bridge program (ALN 20.205) to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, "Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint - LMB"; AUTHORIZING the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, "Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint - LMB"; and AUTHORIZING the City Manager to execute any agreements necessary for the receipt and administration of these grant resources.

**Sponsors:** City Manager

**Attachments:** [Transmittal](#)  
[Ordinance](#)

5. [202400997](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 4/3/2024, AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$35,395 from the Ohio Urban Transit Program awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to the Streetcar Operations Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 455x236x7200 to provide funds for preventative maintenance on the streetcar system; and AUTHORIZING the Director of Finance to deposit the grant funds into Streetcar Operations Fund 455 revenue account no. 455x8534.

**Sponsors:** City Manager

**Attachments:** [Transmittal](#)  
[Ordinance](#)

### **MOTIONS**

6. [202401024](#) MOTION, submitted by Vice Mayor Kearney, Councilmembers Albi and Harris, WE MOVE that the Office of Environment and Sustainability apply for FEMA funding for a geotechnical study for the ravine behind Hewitt Crescent St through their Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities grant. If awarded, this grant would require a 25% match in funding from the City.

**Sponsors:** Kearney, Albi and Harris

**Attachments:** [202401024](#)

### **BUDGET POLICY COMMUNICATIONS**

7. [202401075](#) COMMUNICATION, dated 04/05/2024, submitted by Councilmember Harris, regarding Updated Budget Priorities for FY25 Recommended Budget: we have engaged our City Administration, the community, and our partner organizations for the past several months to gather the greatest needs of Cincinnatians in the upcoming FY25 budget. In alignment with that engagement and the administration's five budget categories, the priorities below build off the progress this Council and Mayor have made thus far and set the path for a sustainable, safe, and

vibrant future. (BALANCE ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE)

**Sponsors:** Harris

**Attachments:** [Communication](#)

8. [202401077](#) COMMUNICATION, dated 04/05/2024, submitted by Councilmember Cramerding, regarding: I wish to express support for the following priorities, which are in line with the strategic priorities outlined in the City Manager's budget, and that they receive allocations in the upcoming fiscal year 2024-2025 budget. (BALANCE ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE)

**Sponsors:** Cramerding

**Attachments:** [Communication](#)

9. [202401079](#) COMMUNICATION, dated 04/05/2024, submitted by Councilmember Albi, regarding: Our greatest responsibility as a City Council is to cultivate and maintain a safe community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. To do that, we must ensure our residents have a roof over their heads, fresh food on the table and access to healthcare. In addition, we must continue to use a data-driven and equity-centric approach to invest at the grassroots level into community-based programs that serve those most in need. (BALANCE ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE)

**Sponsors:** Albi

**Attachments:** [Communication](#)

10. [202401080](#) COMMUNICATION, dated 04/05/2024, submitted by Councilmember Jeffreys, regarding: Budget Policy Direction to City Administration for Recommended FY2025 Budget. (BALANCE ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE)

**Sponsors:** Jeffreys

**Attachments:** [Communication](#)

11. [202401082](#) COMMUNICATION, dated 04/05/2024, submitted by Councilmember Owens, regarding: As the City Administration prepares for FY25 Biennial Recommended General Fund Operating and Capital Budgets, it should aim for an equitable allocation of resources that meets community needs and ensures that funds allocated are spent transparently and accountably. We present the following policy guidelines and priorities, which are in accordance with the structure of budget asks of other departments and boards of the City of Cincinnati, community needs, and the interests of my office. (BALANCE ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE)

**Sponsors:** Owens

**Attachments:** [Communication](#)

12. [202401083](#) COMMUNICATION, dated 04/05/2024, submitted by Councilmember

Walsh, regarding: Budget Priorities for FY25 Recommended Budget. As we look ahead, budget deficits lie on the horizon. The reason is simple: we have not grown enough to keep up with the demand for quality service delivery in the City of Cincinnati. Cities that are not growing are dying. We must think boldly now to see a vibrant and thriving city that everyone can be proud of well into the future. (BALANCE ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE)

**Sponsors:** Walsh

**Attachments:** [Communication](#)

13. [202401084](#) COMMUNICATION, dated 04/05/2024, submitted by Councilmember Johnson, regarding Councilmember Johnson's FY 25's Budget Priorities. (BALANCE IS ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE)

**Sponsors:** Johnson

**Attachments:** [Communication](#)

14. [202401085](#) COMMUNICATION, dated 04/05/2024, submitted by Councilmember Parks, regarding: Councilmember Victoria Parks Budget Priorities for FY25 Recommended Budget. (BALANCE ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE)

**Sponsors:** Parks

**Attachments:** [Communication](#)

15. [202401086](#) COMMUNICATION, dated 04/05/2024, submitted by Vice Mayor Kearney, regarding: Motion for Budget Priorities FY '25. The ultimate goal is to help every resident and every neighborhood to thrive. That means addressing the challenges of health and wealth disparities, housing and food insecurity, and physical and mental health. It means promoting public safety, thriving neighborhoods, growth in jobs and business opportunities. It's imperative that we make funding decisions through a lens of equity so that all of our residents across the city have the chance to live their best lives, to be healthy, and to prosper. (BALANCE OF MOTION IS ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE)

**Sponsors:** Kearney

**Attachments:** [Communication](#)

ADJOURNMENT

202400993

Date: April 3, 2024

**To:** Mayor Aftab Pureval and Councilmember Mark Jeffreys  
**From:** Emily Smart Woerner, City Solicitor *EESW/LES*  
**Subject:** **Emergency Ordinance – Red Bike Funding**

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Transmitted herewith is an emergency ordinance captioned as follows:

**AUTHORIZING** the transfer and return to source of \$197,197.76 from capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222390, “Red Bike Program Expansion,” to the unappropriated surplus of General Fund 050; and **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and appropriation of \$197,197.76 from the unappropriated surplus of General Fund 050 to the Department of Transportation and Engineering FY 2024 non-personnel operating budget account no. 050x232x7200 to provide one-time resources for operating support to allow Red Bike d/b/a Cincy Bike Share, Inc. to continue to operate in the City.

EESW/LES (dmm)  
Attachment  
399622





EMERGENCY

City of Cincinnati

LES [Signature]

An Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_

- 2024

**AUTHORIZING** the transfer and return to source of \$197,197.76 from capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222390, “Red Bike Program Expansion,” to the unappropriated surplus of General Fund 050; and **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and appropriation of \$197,197.76 from the unappropriated surplus of General Fund 050 to the Department of Transportation and Engineering FY 2024 non-personnel operating budget account no. 050x232x7200 to provide one-time resources for operating support to allow Red Bike d/b/a Cincy Bike Share, Inc. to continue to operate in the City.

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2021, Council passed Ordinance No. 507-2021, which was amended by Ordinance No. 163-2022, authorizing the transfer and appropriation of \$500,000 from the General Fund to capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222390, “Red Bike Program Expansion,” to provide resources for program expansion into various City neighborhoods, including Bond Hill, Roselawn, Evanston, and Avondale; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2024, the Cincy Bike Share Board voted to discontinue operations indefinitely due to lack of sustainable funding; and

WHEREAS, a fundraising campaign has been created to avoid a discontinuation of Red Bike’s operations, towards which the City will transfer existing capital funds allocated to Red Bike to the operating budget as the City’s contribution to this effort; and

WHEREAS, this funding is intended as a one-time contribution as bridge funding to allow Red Bike to establish a long-term sustainable funding model; and

WHEREAS, providing resources for operating support for Red Bike is in accordance with the “Compete” goal to “[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood vitality” and the strategy to “[e]xpand options for non-automotive travel” as described on pages 127-146 of Plan Cincinnati (2012); now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That the transfer and return to source of \$197,197.76 from capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222390, “Red Bike Program Expansion,” to the unappropriated surplus of General Fund 050 is authorized.

Section 2. That \$197,197.76 is transferred and appropriated from the unappropriated surplus of General Fund 050 to the Department of Transportation and Engineering FY 2024

non-personnel operating budget account no. 050x232x7200 to provide one-time resources for operating support to allow Red Bike d/b/a Cincy Bike Share, Inc. to continue to operate in the City.

Section 3. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the terms of 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 to deploy funding to allow Red Bike to continue operations.

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

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

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



April 3, 2024

**To:** Mayor and Members of City Council

202400994

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

**Subject: Emergency Ordinance – OES: USDA Compost & Food Waste Reduction Grant**

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Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

**AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a Compost & Food Waste Reduction Grant (ALN 10.935) of up to \$400,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture (the “USDA Grant”) to support diverting food loss and waste from landfills, increasing food recovery and transformation, and creating compost; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the USDA Grant resources into Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 revenue account no. 436x8543; **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and return to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund of \$100,000 from capital improvement program project account no. 980x104x231029, “Green Cincinnati Sustainability Initiatives – GF”; and **AUTHORIZING** the transfer of \$100,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 to provide matching resources for the USDA Grant.

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance authorizes the following:

1. the City Manager to accept and appropriate a Compost & Food Waste Reduction Grant of up to \$400,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to support diverting food loss and waste from landfills, increasing food recovery and transformation, and creating compost;
2. the Finance Director to deposit USDA Grant resources into Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 revenue account no. 436x8543;
3. the transfer and return to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund of \$100,000 from capital improvement program project account no. 980x104x231029, “Green Cincinnati Sustainability Initiatives – GF”; and
4. the transfer of \$100,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the unappropriated surplus of Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 to provide matching resources for the USDA Grant.

On June 26, 2023, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 0253-2023, which authorized the City Manager to apply for the USDA Grant to support diverting food waste from landfills and creating compost. The City was awarded the USDA Grant for up to \$400,000.

The USDA Grant requires a 25 percent local match, totaling \$100,000, which is available in existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x104x231029, “Green Cincinnati Sustainability Initiatives – GF.” These resources need to be transferred to Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 to be used for the local match. The Office of Environment and Sustainability will use the matching funds to fund temporary personnel.

No new FTEs/full time equivalents are associated with the USDA Grant.

Diverting food waste from landfills and creating compost is in accordance with the “Sustain” goal to “[b]ecome a healthier Cincinnati” and strategy to “[c]reate a healthy environment and reduce energy consumption” as described on pages 181-186 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept the grant resources and align with the established grant period.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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



Attachment

**EMERGENCY**

**IMD**

**-2024**

**AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a Compost & Food Waste Reduction Grant (ALN 10.935) of up to \$400,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture (the “USDA Grant”) to support diverting food loss and waste from landfills, increasing food recovery and transformation, and creating compost; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the USDA Grant resources into Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 revenue account no. 436x8543; **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and return to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund of \$100,000 from capital improvement program project account no. 980x104x231029, “Green Cincinnati Sustainability Initiatives – GF”; and **AUTHORIZING** the transfer of \$100,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 to provide matching resources for the USDA Grant.

WHEREAS, a grant of up to \$400,000 is available from the United States Department of Agriculture through the Compost & Food Waste Reduction Grant Program (ALN 10.935) (the “USDA Grant”); and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2023, Council approved Ordinance No. 253-2023, which authorized the City Manager to apply for the USDA Grant to support diverting food waste from landfills and creating compost; and

WHEREAS, the City was awarded the USDA Grant of up to \$400,000; and

WHEREAS, the USDA Grant requires the City to provide matching funds of 25 percent, totaling \$100,000, and these matching funds are available in existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x104x231029, “Green Cincinnati Sustainability Initiatives – GF,” but need to be transferred to Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 to be used for the local match; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Environment and Sustainability will use the matching funds to fund temporary personnel; and

WHEREAS, there are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with the USDA Grant; and

WHEREAS, diverting food waste from landfills and creating compost is in accordance with the “Sustain” goal to “[b]ecome a healthier Cincinnati” and strategy to “[c]reate a healthy environment and reduce energy consumption” as described on pages 181-186 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 and appropriate a Compost & Food Waste Reduction Grant (ALN 10.935) of up to \$400,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture (the “USDA Grant”) to support diverting food loss and waste from landfills, increasing food recovery and transformation, and creating compost.

Section 2. That the Director of Finance is authorized to deposit the USDA Grant resources into Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 revenue account no. 436x8543.

Section 3. That \$100,000 is transferred from capital improvement program project account no. 980x104x231029, “Green Cincinnati Sustainability Initiatives – GF,” and returned to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

Section 4. That \$100,000 is transferred from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 to provide matching resources for the USDA Grant.

Section 5. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the terms of the USDA Grant and Sections 1 through 4.

Section 6. 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 to accept the grant resources and align with the established grant period.

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

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

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

April 3, 2024

**To:** Mayor and Members of City Council  
**From:** Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager  
**Subject:** **Emergency Ordinance – DOTE: Western Hills Viaduct (WHV) Transit Infrastructure Fund Grant and Matching Resources**

202400995

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

**ESTABLISHING** new capital improvement program project account nos. 980x233x242372, “WHV OKI STBG 2020 HC Match,” 980x233x242373, “WHV OKI STBG 2021 HC Match,” 980x233x242374, “WHV TRAC 2021 HC Match,” and 980x233x242375, “WHV Earmark 2022 HC Match”; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate contributions from Hamilton County up to \$3,500,000 to be used as fifty percent of the required local match for federal grants, in accordance with the attached Schedule of Appropriation; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit up to \$3,500,000 from Hamilton County to the various newly established capital improvement program project accounts set forth in the attached Schedule of Appropriation; **AMENDING** Ordinance 8-2022 to reconcile a difference between Ordinance 8-2022 and the project grant agreement for the scheduled payment of funds awarded to the Western Hills Viaduct project; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to transfer and appropriate up to \$8,200,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 401, “Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants,” to existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222392, “Western Hills Viaduct Transit Grant”; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to do all things necessary and enter into any agreements necessary to accept these grant and matching resources.

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance accomplishes the following:

1. establishes four new Western Hills Viaduct capital improvement program project accounts to provide local matching resources from Hamilton County for various federal grants;
2. authorizes the City Manager to accept and appropriate contributions from Hamilton County up to \$3,500,000 to be used as fifty percent of the required local match for various federal grants;
3. authorizes the Finance Director to deposit up to \$3,500,000 from Hamilton County to the various newly established capital improvement program project accounts;
4. amends Ordinance No. 0008-2022 to reconcile a difference between Ordinance No. 0008-2022 and the project grant agreement for the scheduled payment of funds awarded to the Western Hills Viaduct project (“the Project”);
5. authorizes the City Manager to transfer and appropriate up to \$8,200,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 401, “Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants,” to existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222392, “Western Hills Viaduct Transit Grant”; and
6. authorizes the City Manager to do all things necessary to enter into any agreements necessary to accept these grant and matching resources.



On December 7, 2022, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 0369-2022 authorizing the City Manager to accept and appropriate the following grants for the Project: Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana (OKI) Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) Grant, Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (INFRA) grant, and federal funding earmarked in the Consolidation Appropriations Act of 2022 for Highway Infrastructure Programs. Hamilton County will provide matching resources up to \$3,500,000 for these grants, which requires City Council authorization to accept and appropriate.

On January 20, 2022, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 0008-2022, authorizing the City Manager to accept and deposit into Fund No. 401, "Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants," grant resources up to \$205,000,000 from the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) Transit Infrastructure Fund program, with payments to be received over 25 years at a rate of \$8,200,000 million annually for the Project.

Under the terms of the project grant agreement executed December 8, 2023 between the City and SORTA, grant resources of up to \$205 million from the SORTA Transit Infrastructure Fund will be disbursed in the following manner: \$16,400,000 will be deposited into Fund No. 401, "Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants," followed by 12 annual installments of \$14,500,000 and one final payment of \$14,600,000, totaling up to \$188,600,000, will be assigned to be used by the Transportation Improvement District (TID) or its Trustee to pay debt service and related costs on bonds issued for the Project. To reconcile the difference in the payment schedule from Ordinance No. 0008-2022 and the project grant agreement, it is necessary to amend Section 7 of Ordinance No. 0008-2022.

There are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with these grants.

The Project is in accordance with the "Connect" goal to "[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability" as well as the strategy to "[p]lan, design and implement a safe and sustainable transportation system" described on pages 129-138 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept matching resources to meet established contractual deadlines.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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



Attachment

## EMERGENCY

KKF

- 2024

**ESTABLISHING** new capital improvement program project account nos. 980x233x242372, “WHV OKI STBG 2020 HC Match,” 980x233x242373, “WHV OKI STBG 2021 HC Match,” 980x233x242374, “WHV TRAC 2021 HC Match,” and 980x233x242375, “WHV Earmark 2022 HC Match”; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate contributions from Hamilton County up to \$3,500,000 to be used as fifty percent of the required local match for federal grants, in accordance with the attached Schedule of Appropriation; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit up to \$3,500,000 from Hamilton County to the various newly established capital improvement program project accounts as set forth in the attached Schedule of Appropriation; **AMENDING** Ordinance 8-2022 to reconcile a difference between Ordinance 8-2022 and the project grant agreement for the scheduled payment of funds awarded to the Western Hills Viaduct project; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to transfer and appropriate up to \$8,200,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 401, “Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants,” to existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222392, “Western Hills Viaduct Transit Grant”; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to do all things necessary and enter into any agreements necessary to accept these grant and matching resources.

WHEREAS, on December 7, 2022, Council approved Ordinance No. 369-2022 authorizing the City Manager to accept and appropriate an Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana (OKI) Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), a Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) Grant, a Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (INFRA) grant, and federal funding earmarked in the Consolidation Appropriations Act of 2022 for Highway Infrastructure Programs, all to provide resources for the Western Hills Viaduct project, (“Project”); and

WHEREAS, Hamilton County will provide matching resources up to \$3,500,000 for these grants, which requires Council authorization to accept and appropriate; and

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2022, Council approved Ordinance No. 8-2022 authorizing the City Manager to accept and deposit into Fund No. 401, “Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants,” grant resources totaling up to \$205,000,000 from the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (“SORTA”) Transit Infrastructure Fund program, with payments to be received over 25 years at a rate of \$8,200,000 annually for the Project; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of the project grant agreement executed December 8, 2023, between the City and SORTA, grant resources of up to \$205,000,000 from the SORTA Transit Infrastructure Fund will be disbursed in the following manner: \$16,400,000 will be deposited into Fund No. 401, “Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants,” followed by twelve annual installments of \$14,500,000 and one final payment of \$14,600,000, totaling up to \$188,600,000, will be assigned to the Transportation Improvement District or its Trustee to pay debt service and related costs on bonds issued for the Project; and

WHEREAS, in order to reconcile the difference in the payment schedule from Ordinance No. 8-2022 and the project grant agreement, it is necessary to amend Section 7 of Ordinance No. 8-2022; and

WHEREAS, Council authorization is required to transfer and appropriate up to \$8,200,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 401, "Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants," to capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222392, "Western Hills Viaduct Transit Grant"; and

WHEREAS, there are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with these grants; and

WHEREAS, the Project is in accordance with the "Connect" goal to "[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability" as well as the strategy to "[p]lan, design and implement a safe and sustainable transportation system" as described on pages 129-138 of Plan Cincinnati (2012); now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That the Director of Finance is authorized to establish new capital improvement program project account nos. 980x233x242372, "WHV OKI STBG 2020 HC Match," 980x233x242373, "WHV OKI STBG 2021 HC Match," 980x233x242374, "WHV TRAC 2021 HC Match," and 980x233x242375, "WHV Earmark 2022 HC Match."

Section 2. That the City Manager is authorized to accept and appropriate contributions from Hamilton County of up to \$3,500,000 to be used as fifty percent of the required local match for federal grants, in accordance with the attached Schedule of Appropriation.

Section 3. That the Director of Finance is authorized to deposit up to \$3,500,000 from Hamilton County to the various newly established capital improvement program project accounts as set forth in the attached Schedule of Appropriation.

Section 4. That Section 7 of Ordinance No. 8-2022, approved by Council on January 20, 2022, is amended as follows:

Section 7. That the City Manager is authorized to accept and deposit into Fund No. 401, "Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants," grant resources of up to \$205 million from the SORTA Transit Infrastructure Fund, which will be received over 25 years at a rate of \$8.2 million per year for the Western Hills Viaduct project in the following manner: \$16,400,000 to be deposited into Fund No. 401 "Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants," and twelve annual installments of \$14,500,000 and

one final payment of \$14,600,000, totaling up to \$188,600,000, to be assigned to the Transportation Improvement District or its Trustee to be used by the Transportation Improvement District or Trustee to pay debt service and related costs on bonds issued for the Western Hills Viaduct project.

Section 5. That all terms of Ordinance No. 8-2022 not amended by this ordinance remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. That the City Manager is authorized to transfer and appropriate up to \$8,200,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 401, "Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants," to existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222392, "Western Hills Viaduct Transit Grant."

Section 7. That the City Manager is authorized to do all things necessary and proper to enter into any agreements necessary for the receipt and administration of these resources.

Section 8. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the terms of these funding sources and Sections 1 through 7.

Section 9. That this ordinance shall be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of 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 to accept matching resources to meet established contractual deadlines.

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
New language is underscored. Deleted language is struck through.

**SCHEDULE OF APPROPRIATION**

Fund	Agency	PROJECT OR FUND TO BE TRANSFERRED TO NUMBER: DESCRIPTION	Original Authorization	Amount to be Increased	Revised Authorization
980	233	242372 WHV OKI STBG 2020 HC Match	\$0	\$125,000	\$125,000
980	233	242373 WHV OKI STBG 2021 HC Match	\$0	\$125,000	\$125,000
980	233	242374 WHV TRAC 2021 HC Match	\$0	\$3,125,000	\$3,125,000
980	233	242375 WHV Earmark 2022 HC Match	\$0	\$125,000	\$125,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,500,000</b>	<b>\$3,500,000</b>



April 3, 2024

**To:** Mayor and Members of City Council 202400996

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

**Subject:** **Emergency Ordinance – DOTE: Local Major Bridge (LMB) Program Grant for Hopple Street Viaduct**

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Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

**ESTABLISHING** new capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, “Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint – LMB,” to provide resources for the design, construction, and right-of-way acquisition associated with the major preventative maintenance work on the Hopple Street Viaduct; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a grant up to \$9,040,000 from the Ohio Department of Transportation Local Major Bridge program (ALN 20.205) to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, “Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint – LMB”; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, “Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint – LMB”; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to execute any agreements necessary for the receipt and administration of these grant resources.

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance accomplishes the following:

1. establishes new capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, “Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint – LMB,” to provide resources for the design, construction, and right-of-way acquisition associated with the major preventative maintenance work on the Hopple Street Viaduct;
2. authorizes the City Manager to accept and appropriate a \$9,040,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) Local Major Bridge (“LMB”) program (ALN 20.205) to the newly established capital improvement program project account;
3. authorizes the Finance Director to deposit grant resources into the newly established capital improvement program project account; and
4. authorizes the City Manager to execute any agreements necessary for the receipt and administration of these grant resources.

On November 1, 2023, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 0361-2023, which authorized the City Manager to apply for a grant of up to \$10,000,000 from the ODOT LMB program to provide resources for design and construction services associated with major preventative maintenance work on the Hopple Street Viaduct. The City

was awarded up to \$9,040,000 for this project, and City Council authorization is required to accept and appropriate the grant award.

A local match of up to \$2,260,000 will be required during Fiscal Years 2025 through 2027, which is anticipated to be paid from existing and future “Maintenance Fund for Bridges” capital improvement program project accounts. There are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with this grant.

Performing major preventative maintenance work on the Hopple Street Viaduct is 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 129-138 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to authorize the City Manager to accept the grant award by the established deadline of April 12, 2024.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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



Attachment

**EMERGENCY**

**KKF**

**- 2024**

**ESTABLISHING** new capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, “Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint – LMB,” to provide resources for the design, construction, and right-of-way acquisition associated with the major preventative maintenance work on the Hopple Street Viaduct; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a grant up to \$9,040,000 from the Ohio Department of Transportation Local Major Bridge program (ALN 20.205) to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, “Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint – LMB”; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, “Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint – LMB”; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to execute any agreements necessary for the receipt and administration of these grant resources.

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2023, Council approved Ordinance No. 361-2023, which authorized the City Manager to apply for a grant of up to \$10,000,000 from the Ohio Department of Transportation Local Major Bridge (“LMB”) program to provide resources for design and construction services associated with major preventative maintenance work on the Hopple Street Viaduct; and

WHEREAS, the City was awarded up to \$9,040,000 for this project, and Council authorization is required to accept and appropriate the grant award; and

WHEREAS, the LMB program provides federal resources to counties and municipalities for bridge replacement, bridge rehabilitation, major bridge preventative maintenance, and bridge demolition projects up to \$20,000,000 for bridges defined as Local Major Bridges, which requires the structure to have deck areas larger than 15,000 square feet, which the Hopple Street Viaduct satisfies; and

WHEREAS, a local match of up to \$2,260,000 will be required during Fiscal Years 2025 through 2027, which is anticipated to be paid from existing and future “Maintenance Fund for Bridges” capital improvement program project accounts; and

WHEREAS, there are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with this grant; and

WHEREAS, performing major preventative maintenance work on the Hopple Street Viaduct is 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 129-138 of Plan Cincinnati (2012); now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That the Director of Finance is authorized to establish new capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, “Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint – LMB,” to provide resources for the design, construction, and right-of-way acquisition associated with the major preventative maintenance work on the Hopple Street Viaduct.

Section 2. That the City Manager is authorized to accept and appropriate a grant of up to \$9,040,000 from the Ohio Department of Transportation Local Major Bridge program (ALN 20.205) to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, “Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint – LMB.”

Section 3. That the Director of Finance is authorized to deposit the grant resources into capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x242378, “Hopple St Viaduct Preventative Maint – LMB.”

Section 4. That the City Manager is authorized to execute any agreements necessary for the receipt and administration of these grant resources.

Section 5. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to comply with the terms of the grant and Sections 1 through 4.

Section 6. 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 to authorize the City Manager to accept the grant award by the established deadline of April 12, 2024.

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

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

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

April 3, 2024

**To:** Mayor and Members of City Council  
**From:** Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager  
**Subject:** **Emergency Ordinance – DOTE: Urban Transit Program (UTP) Grant for Streetcar System**

202400997

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Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

**AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$35,395 from the Ohio Urban Transit Program awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to the Streetcar Operations Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 455x236x7200 to provide funds for preventative maintenance on the streetcar system; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant funds into Streetcar Operations Fund 455 revenue account no. 455x8534.

This Emergency Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$35,395 from the Ohio Urban Transit Program awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to the Streetcar Operations Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 455x236x7200 to provide resources for preventative maintenance on the streetcar system. This Emergency Ordinance also authorizes the Director of Finance to deposit the grant funds into Streetcar Operations Fund 455 revenue account no. 455x8534.

The City already applied for the grant and was awarded up to \$35,395 for preventative maintenance on the streetcar system, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by the City Council. Acceptance of this grant requires no matching funds, and no new permanent FTEs/full time equivalents are associated with the acceptance of this grant.

Utilizing Ohio UTP resources to support the Connector streetcar is in accordance with the “Connect” goal to “[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability” as described on page 129 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept and expend grant funds within the current fiscal year.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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

Attachment





**EMERGENCY**

CNS

- 2024

**AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$35,395 from the Ohio Urban Transit Program awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to the Streetcar Operations Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 455x236x7200 to provide funds for preventative maintenance on the streetcar system; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant funds into Streetcar Operations Fund 455 revenue account no. 455x8534.

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has been delegated the authority to award state financial assistance for transit projects under the Ohio Urban Transit Program (“UTP”), and the City wishes to apply for available UTP grants and financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, the City is a direct recipient of Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 funds and is eligible to apply for financial assistance for the Connector streetcar project under the Ohio UTP; and

WHEREAS, acceptance of this grant requires no matching funds, and no new permanent FTEs/full time equivalents are associated with acceptance of this grant; and

WHEREAS, the City already applied for the grant and was awarded up to \$35,395 for preventative maintenance on the streetcar system, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by Council; and

WHEREAS, utilizing Ohio UTP resources to support the Connector streetcar project is in accordance with the “Connect” goal to “[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability” as described on page 129 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 apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$35,395 from the Ohio Urban Transit Program awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) to the Streetcar Operations Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 455x236x7200 to provide funds for preventative maintenance on the streetcar system.

Section 2. That the City Manager is authorized to execute grant and cooperative agreements with ODOT on behalf of the City.

Section 3. That the Director of Finance is authorized to deposit the grant funds into Streetcar Operations Fund 455 revenue account no. 455x8534.

Section 4. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the terms of the grant and Sections 1 through 3.

Section 5. 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 to accept and expend grant funds within the current fiscal year.

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

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

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



202401024

**Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney**  
*Vice Mayor*

### Motion

We move that the Office of Environment and Sustainability apply for FEMA funding for a geotechnical study for the ravine behind Hewitt Crescent St through their Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities grant. If awarded, this grant would require a 25% match in funding from the City.

  
Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



2024 01075

**Reggie Harris**  
Councilmember

April 5, 2024

**Councilmember Reggie Harris Updated Budget Priorities for  
FY25 Recommended Budget**

We have engaged our City Administration, the community, and our partner organizations for the past several months to gather the greatest needs of Cincinnatians in the upcoming FY25 budget. In alignment with that engagement and the administration's five budget categories, the priorities below build off the progress this Council and Mayor have made thus far and set the path for a sustainable, safe, and vibrant future.

**Public Safety**

- Continued prioritization of Police and Fire recruit classes to battle the increasing attrition and work towards restoring full complement levels.
- Adherence to the *Cincy on Track* plan to address deferred capital maintenance in our public safety facilities, parks, recreation centers, health centers, and other critical public assets.
- Maintain funding for Pedestrian Safety projects so that we can be responsive to community-led project requests.

**Thriving Neighborhoods**

- Funding for our Community Development Corporations and direct support for our Neighborhood Business Districts to support economic development, especially in underserved communities.
- Prioritization of home repair funding like HARBOR and an expansion to include low-interest loans for moderate income homeowners.
- Continued funding support for the Affordable Housing Leveraged Fund and our other affordable housing funding buckets.

**Growing Economic Opportunity**

- Support for revenue-generating events, such as Blink, Forbes 30 under 30, and Black Tech Week that have a positive revenue impact and increase the city's tourism and notoriety.

- Continue to fund the Black Developers Conference, an event hosted by the City which has been successful in bridging the gap for minority developers, investors, and contractors to play a key piece in the city's growth.

#### **Fiscal Sustainability**

- The budget should be structurally balanced and prepare for FY26 when federal ARPA dollars will no longer be available.
- Prioritize leveraged support funding for organizations with high return on investment for the city and job creation, such as REDI, Greater Cincinnati Northern Kentucky African American Chamber, CincyTech, Centrifuse, and Film Cincy.
- The City should continue to pursue aggressive solutions to our pension needs.

#### **Excellent and Equitable Service Delivery**

- The budget should be consistent with the ordinance passed June 21, 2017, which directs the City Council to maintain appropriations to human services at 1.5% of the General Fund Budget.
- Support technological and personnel investments to ensure permitting, zoning approvals, and contracting is done in a timely and efficient manner for our partners.
- Support the expansion of our parking enforcement officers through additional FTEs and bringing them on full-time.
- Work towards offering our city solicitors a competitive wage to retain the best talent possible in supporting the city's legal needs.
- Make necessary improvements to the hiring process so we are recruiting efficiently, offering a positive experience for applicants, and supporting our departments' staffing needs.



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Councilmember Reggie Harris





**Jeff Cramerding**  
Councilmember

202401077

## COMMUNICATION

I wish to express support for the following priorities, which are in line with the strategic priorities outlined in the City Manager's budget, and that they receive allocations in the upcoming FY 2024-2025 budget.

### Public Safety

- Funding for a traffic study to convert Queen City Avenue in North Fairmount from one-way to two-way.

*Queen City Avenue is a major corridor through North Fairmount and is a vital piece of the neighborhood's revitalization. Converting this road from one-way traffic to two-way traffic will not only implement traffic calming measures, but it will also help the North Fairmount business district become more pedestrian friendly and encourage development and investment. A traffic study is needed to begin this process.*

### Thriving Neighborhoods

- Funding for the planning of two new potential Parks and Recreation sites on the Westside.
  - Cincinnati Parks: Price's Landing
  - Cincinnati Recreation Commission: Former Mercy West Site

*These sites have been identified as potential projects that our Parks Department and Recreation Commission can develop and bring new amenities online for the benefit of Westside residents. These two projects will bring residents closer to recreation opportunities and greenspace, contributing to a greater quality of life. Funds are needed to begin the planning phase to develop these sites.*

### Excellent and Equitable Service Delivery

- Funding for an additional Assistant City Manager position in the City Manager's Office.

*As this Council considers the efficiency of our city functions and ensuring our strategic goals are met, adding an additional Assistant City Manager to our leadership roster is the best next step. This is an important action to take to support the excellent work that our City Manager and current Assistant City Managers do and build upon their successes.*

  
Councilmember Jeff Cramerding



202401079

Anna Albi  
Councilmember

*Our greatest responsibility as a City Council is to cultivate and maintain a safe community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. To do that, we must ensure our residents have a roof over their heads, fresh food on the table and access to healthcare. In addition, we must continue to use a data-driven and equity-centric approach to invest at the grassroots level into community-based programs that serve those most in need.*

## Public Safety

While overall violent crime in Cincinnati has reached a 10-year low, the 2023 City of Cincinnati Resident Survey found that only 40% of residents were satisfied with the overall feeling of safety. Prioritizing public safety in our budget necessitates a holistic approach that includes supporting law enforcement, addressing the social determinants of health that contribute to gun violence, and providing youth outlets to grow and learn.

### *Budget Request:*

1. **Victim Assistance Liaison Unit** – Funding for two additional full-time and two part-time staff members to support survivors of gun violence.
2. **Secure firearm storage** – Funding for gun locks and lock boxes to be distributed to the public.
3. **Boots on the Ground/Safe and Clean Fund** – Increase funding available through Boots on the Ground and Safe and Clean Funds to support grass-roots organizations.
4. **Alternative Response to Crisis (ARC)** – Provide funding for a second ARC team to help those in crisis using the most appropriate and least invasive intervention available.
5. **Food access** – For Leveraged Support, prioritizing organizations that address food insecurity.
6. **Pedestrian safety** – Continued funding for pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, with increased opportunities for communities to request projects in priority areas and intersections.

## Thriving Neighborhoods

To foster a stronger Cincinnati, we must invest in each of our 52 neighborhoods. We have heard consistently from our residents that pedestrian safety is a key priority to ensuring our neighborhoods are safe and walkable, especially around our business districts and where children frequent (e.g., schools, parks and rec centers). Additionally, multiple Cincinnati neighborhoods are food deserts. In fact, data shows that between 10-30% of Cincinnati residents are food insecure and food insecurity has increased by 60% since the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Budget Request:*

1. **Food delivery pilot program** - Funding for a two-year pilot program in select neighborhood(s) targeting SNAP recipients to provide greater access to healthy food options and other basic needs.
2. **Traffic safety technology** – Funding for enhanced technology in collaboration with Cincinnati Police Department and Department of Transportation and Engineering to monitor unsafe driving.
3. **Community councils** – Restore NSP funding through Invest in Neighborhoods to \$10,000 per neighborhood and explore opportunities to expand capacity and training opportunities.

## **Growing Economic Opportunity**

We must embrace a “yes, and” approach to address the critical challenge of housing by prioritizing long-term zoning reform through Connected Communities while incentivizing housing for low- and moderate-income residents. We should also explore creative solutions to expand and strengthen our workforce, including supporting our minority- and women-owned businesses, increasing access to childcare and elderly care and prioritizing inclusive transportation options.

*Budget Request:*

1. **Funding for low-income housing** – Funding for the Affordable Housing Leveraged Fund through the Cincinnati Development Fund with increased emphasis on development projects aimed at 60 AMI and below.
2. **Workforce development** – Expand Career Pathways to increase additional departments and kinds of roles and continue support for Building Futures program through the Urban League.

## **Fiscal Sustainability**

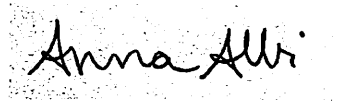
The City must employ a strategic and data-driven approach to our budget, especially for external organizations funded through Human Services and Leveraged Support. Funding should be based on performance and data outcomes, and we should be creative and ambitious about seeking out federal and private grant opportunities. As we consider undertaking large projects, we should prioritize leading with pilot programs where possible and including clearly defined success measures to evaluate effectiveness and sustainability.

## **Excellent and Equitable Service Delivery**

According to our 2023 City of Cincinnati Resident Survey, 61% of residents are either “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with the quality of City services. Two areas where residents see the greatest need for improvement include: the maintenance of City streets/sidewalks/infrastructure (25% “satisfied or “very satisfied”) and the effectiveness of City communication with the public (39% “satisfied or “very satisfied”). In addition to focusing on these critical areas, the City must continue to invest to ensure we are recruiting, training and retaining top-tier talent. Almost every department director identified staffing and talent development as a service delivery challenge.

*Budget Request:*

1. **Resident communication** – Invest in technologies that would allow the City to engage with residents more effectively, specifically including opt-in text messaging capabilities.
2. **Infrastructure improvements** – Prioritize infrastructure improvements outlined in the Cincy on Track Critical Infrastructure Plan.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anna Albi". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered on the page.

---

Councilmember Anna Albi





Mark Jeffreys  
Councilmember

202401080

April 5, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**  
**Budget Policy Direction to City Administration for**  
**Recommended FY2025 Budget**

**1. Public Safety**

- a. Support recruit classes for both the Police and Fire departments and the Alternative Response to Crisis.
- b. Maintain funding for the Pedestrian Safety Program to implement traffic calming measures and prioritize the most vulnerable road users.
- c. Continued funding for the Street Rehabilitation Program to maintain our public roadways and advance the objectives of Complete Streets

**2. Thriving Neighborhoods**

- a. Stormwater Management Utility - Funding green stormwater infrastructure such as “bioswales” and “rain gardens” to alleviate storm sewer capacity and overland flooding in strategic locations.
- b. Continued contribution to the Human Services Fund at 1.5%
- c. Support for the construction of “launch ramps” and recreational access along the Mill Creek
- d. Continued support for home repair programs such as WarmUp Cincy and HARBOR to repair, retrofit, and weatherize aging housing stock for the purpose of reducing energy burden and code violations.
- e. Funding for Neighborhood Support Program and Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program

**3. Growing Economic Opportunity**

- a. Invest in workforce development, particularly the Urban Leagues’ Building Futures program.
- b. Provide relief for those struggling most with increased property taxes.

- c. Investment in multi-modal transportation planning such as bus, bike, and potential streetcar expansion infrastructure.
- d. Fund economic development organizations and anchor events such as African American Chamber, Cintrifuse, CincyTech, Black Tech Week, etc.
- e. Invest in efficiency improvements for economic development processes.

#### 4. Fiscal Sustainability

- a. Implement measures to ensure a structurally balanced budget in FY 2026 after ARP funds run out.
- b. Increased Pension contribution on current glidepath.
- c. Continued identification and application of State and Federal grant opportunities to provide public services, maintain and improve public infrastructure, and reduce overall costs to the City.
- d. Increased funding to the Revolving Energy Loan Fund to further leverage the Inflation Reduction Act and advance the goals of the Green Cincinnati Plan.

#### 5. Excellent and Equitable Service Delivery

- a. Abatement of litter and blight through continued support of the Department of Public Services and Buildings & Inspections.
- b. Invest in efficiency improvements for Constituent Service Request system.
- c. Additional FTEs in the Department of City Planning to support proactive zoning updates and historic preservation.
- d. Increase the capacity and scope of parking enforcement through additional FTEs in the Department of Community & Economic Development
- e. Funding deferred maintenance on the schedule outlined in the proposed “Cincy on Track.”



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Councilmember Mark Jeffreys



202401082

**Meeka D. Owens**  
Cincinnati City Council

4.8.24

## COMMUNICATION

*Councilmember Meeka D. Owens Budget Priorities for FY25*

As the City Administration prepares the FY25 Biennial Recommended General Fund Operating and Capital Budgets, it should aim for an equitable allocation of resources that meets community needs and ensures that funds allocated are spent transparently and accountably. We present the following policy guidelines and priorities, which are in accordance with the structure of budget asks of other departments and boards of the City of Cincinnati, community needs, and the interests of my office.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

Public Safety is this Council's first, second, and third priority, and we as a Council need to be proactive in ensuring that our public safety is the best it can be. While this administration, informed by the Council, continues to do this work, we ask that they specifically prioritize:

- Police and Fire should be funded in a manner consistent with bargaining agreements based on the departments' plan to reach their approved budgeted full-strength complements. Particular attention should be given to ensuring police and fire recruit classes are sufficient to maintain the complements and reduce the burden of overtime on both the currently serving officers and firefighters and the overtime budget.
- As part of the City's ongoing fight to address gun violence as a public health crisis, additional funding should be made available for CPD's victim support work, mental health crisis intervention, gun lock distribution, and proper education and awareness. These items should all be adequately funded so the administration can form a Rapid Response Program to help communities immediately after these traumatic events.

### THRIVING NEIGHBORHOODS

Cincinnati's 52 neighborhoods are what make us so unique. While I and the rest of the Council are aware that each neighborhood has unique needs, I ask that the administration focus on these needs to help our communities grow and thrive:

- Funding for infrastructure should support the formation of a multimodal transportation network. While costs continue to go up across the board in our city, from property taxes to daily expenses, adequate growth in transportation options needs to help mitigate costs. By supporting greater transit options, our city will become more attractive to prospective residents.
- Home repair assistance programs such as HARBOUR should continue to be fully funded to support our city's housing growth and sustainability. This should include the tentative formation of a Cincinnati Rental Improvement Fund to support local landlords in improving their properties while keeping costs affordable for tenants.



- Ensure that the budget reflects climate-informed investments. This includes vigorously applying for the Inflation Reduction Act Revolving Fund, which will ensure that the city can have dollars from the federal government that are directly allocated for mitigating the climate crisis. Additionally, we should accelerate our efforts to remove lead piping through the Lead Service Line Replacement Program and continue to identify funding sources to ensure that this program can thrive.
- In alignment with the Cincy on Track plan, the administration should identify green solutions for refurbishing those projects identified. Prioritizing this while we allocate dollars from the railroad sale will help us build a city for the future that will also help reduce our effect on the climate crisis. While we continue refurbishing our aging infrastructure and constructing possible new infrastructure, we should identify proactive maintenance plans to ensure that we can maintain the assets we currently have and are considering building.
- Throughout Cincinnati, many tenants reside in properties that provide insufficient utilities, infestation, crime, and general neglect. Ensuring that existing housing units are stable and safe is crucial to tackling Cincinnati's housing crisis, as is pursuing negligently problematic properties. Therefore, Code enforcement capacity should be maintained and expanded when possible. This should also mean prioritizing that there are adequate resources to continue and expand the Building Inspectors recruit program. This should include expanding the City's litigation capacity to enforce code compliance through legal means when necessary.

### **GROWING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY**

A city that does not grow ceases to exist. Cincinnati is growing for the first time in a long time, and we need to capitalize on this moment. The administration should focus on the following to help our economic standing:

- In maintaining this Council's good government initiatives, no organization should receive leveraged support that did not apply through the leveraged support process.
- As we continue to try to incentivize business in Cincinnati, we need to ensure that we have an appropriate and responsible allocation of TIFF dollars.
- As the Council and the administration await the introduction of Connect Communities, we should identify ways to grow our Neighborhood Business Districts.
- Green Jobs should be a priority for this administration to help identify and grow, as outlined in the Green Cincinnati Plan. By engaging in this work, we should determine how to activate the city's youth workforce to achieve this and the larger goal of growing employment.

### **FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY**

With federal funding sources beginning to dissolve, we as a city need to be proactive in our approach to closing the impending deficit. That is why the administration should consider the following:

- The General Fund and Capital Fund Budgets must be balanced by FY26 when ARPA funding is no longer available.
- The City should ensure that a competitive process is established for all non-profits approaching the City through our allocation processes, including the carryover process overseen by the Council.
- With impending financial shortfalls approaching with the loss of ARPA funding, the city should identify ways to incentivize revenue-producing development, programming, and additional projects to grow the city's overall revenues.

- Ensuring proper capacity within the City Administration, specifically the Office of Grant Administration, to apply for federal funding opportunities. Growing capacity to apply for federal dollars will ensure that we are not selecting the sources we will apply for based on capacity but rather can apply for funds based on what we need.
- The administration should be committed to establishing and maintaining a transparent system for allocating funds related to the sale of the Cincinnati Southern Railroad.

### **EXCELLENT AND EQUITABLE SERVICE DELIVERY**

The City of Cincinnati's primary mission should be to supply best in class services to the people of this amazing city. Therefore, I ask the administration to consider the following to address those service concerns that are in alignment with the requests of city departments and the citizens' survey:

- Staffing investments should reflect the services that citizens want to see improved, based on the citizen's survey.
- Continued support should be given to the Law Department's Quality of Life team, which is at the front line of combating issues threatening our city's citizens' health, safety, and welfare. This aligns with the Council's continued work on the Tenant's Bill of Rights.
- Proper training opportunities should be accessible to all city employees so that they may engage with subject matter experts and personally advance their knowledge of their industry. This, in turn, will grow the expertise of city employees.
- Meeting the needs of our Human Resources Department should be of the utmost importance so that they can properly help fill staffing shortages and achieve full complement across all departments and offices. This requires allocating resources to have competitive salaries and benefits regardless of industry. This is an overarching goal for the city to attract and retain talent.
- Redevelopment of the city's communications needs to be at the forefront of the administration going forward. We must understand how people interface with the city and realize this is primarily done online. Further, we should examine all possibilities for improving citizens' communication with the city, primarily through our website. Through this improvement we should identify what citizens are accessing frequently and how we can specifically improve those systems. This is pivotal as we consider enhancing our customer service with all community members.

  
Councilmember Meeka D. Owens



202401083

**Seth Walsh**  
Councilmember

## **Budget Priorities for FY25 Recommended Budget**

*Councilmember Seth Walsh*

As we look ahead, budget deficits lie on the horizon. The reason is simple: we have not grown enough to keep up with the demand for quality service delivery in the City of Cincinnati. Cities that are not growing are dying. We must think boldly now to see a vibrant and thriving city that everyone can be proud of well into the future.

In my FY2025 Budget Priorities, I seek to outline the tenets of a budget that ceases to do business as usual and moves Cincinnati toward an aggressive, all in, growth mentality. Now is the time to invest in ourselves and to create pathways for new revenue and growth in our City. Our future depends on it.

My focus areas are on neighborhood economic development, fostering a healthy and thriving small business ecosystem, downtown vitality, public safety, and service delivery.

### **Public Safety and Health**

**Public Safety:** For our neighborhoods to reach their potential, they must be safe and clean. It is key to continue investing in CPD and CFD to make sure they have the resources they need to keep our communities safe.

1. Increase authorized strength of the Cincinnati Fire Department by at least 50 for FY25 and develop a plan to raise it further to reflect current staffing needs and significantly lower the overtime required.
2. Create and implement a plan for how to increase staffing levels in the Cincinnati Fire Department to match the increased authorized strength starting in this budget.
3. Funding for necessary equipment and fleet replacement for CPD and CFD vehicles beyond their lifecycles with long lead times, including replacing any police vehicle with over 200,000 miles of use.
4. Invest in increased health screenings and mental health services for CPD and CFD.
5. Fees for usage of city recreational facilities by Saturday Hoops waived.

### **Thriving Neighborhoods**

**Neighborhood Economic Development:** Robust growth and development are only possible if all 52 of our neighborhoods are set up to thrive. All neighborhoods should have a clear pathway to growth and development in their community, but right now there are many who do not.

1. Uncap and increase funding for the CDC Quick Strike Acquisition Fund.

2. Increase the Department of Community and Economic Development's capital budget to \$10,000,000 across all programs, with a particular focus on NOFA and NBDIP, to support development in the City.
3. Invest in a comprehensive study to create a roadmap for critical investment opportunities, the needed capital, and a strategy to make sure that we are positioned as strongly as possible in comparison to our peer cities to be aggressive in driving growth and development.
4. CDC Operation Support funded at at least the same level as last year through Homebase via CDBG.
5. Fund repairs and cleanup of street stairs on Polk St in Clifton Heights and Steiner Ave in Sedamsville.

**Downtown Vitality:** A thriving downtown is also critical to the growth of Cincinnati. We must continue to market downtown as a destination for events of all sizes, attract more large-scale events like Taylor Swift, and retain events we already have like Black Tech Week and the Cincinnati Music Festival. Particularly with the Convention Center going offline for renovations in the next few years, it will be crucial to get creative to keep our downtown vibrant.

1. \$1,000,000 for the Forbes 30 under 30 event in 2024.
2. Funding to establish an ongoing partnership with the Cincinnati Regional Chamber to create an Event Accelerator Fund with the mission of retaining and developing more medium and large-scale public events throughout the city and to enhance cultural vibrance and strengthen our community while increasing revenue for the city. Funding should support training and planning for local creators to help them launch new and evolving cultural events.
3. Funding for a study in collaboration with Film Cincinnati to explore how we can capture the dramatic increase in movie productions if the Ohio Motion Picture Tax Credit Program gets increased or uncapped. This should include planning for the creation of a production district including a soundstage and other necessary film infrastructure, as well as new business districts and housing surrounding it.
4. \$250,000 to launch the operations of a new sports and events commission to help attract and retain major sporting events in the City of Cincinnati.
5. Funding for Cincinnati Parks specifically to explore expanding and enhancing Piatt Park and for necessary enhancements and repairs to the Sinton East Operations Center.

### **Growing Economic Opportunities**

**Thriving Small Business Ecosystem:** We have done a good job of helping launch businesses, but we also must help them expand and grow in our City. We should work to find more ways to support existing small businesses, particularly minority-owned small businesses, and small businesses in our disinvested neighborhoods.

1. Increase funding for small business support grants.
2. Uncap or significantly raise the cap for small business support programs.
3. Create and fund a pilot program to help existing small businesses, particularly minority-owned businesses, and those in historically disinvested neighborhoods, expand and stabilize their operations sustainably after the startup phase and help fill vacant storefronts throughout the City.
4. Funding to increase capacity for MBE and WBE participation in projects throughout the City and increased funding to scale up the Building Futures program in partnership with Urban League of

Southwest Ohio, Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, Ohio Department of Transportation, AFL-CIO, and the Cincinnati Building and Construction Trades Council.

### **Fiscal Sustainability**

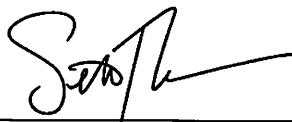
***Fiscal Sustainability:*** To be set up for the future, our city must be fiscally responsible now while making strategic investments for the next decade. Innovative and results-oriented budgeting is a must to make sure that we have the flexibility to make bold investments to see our vision for the future become a reality.

1. Fund the pension at a 1.5% increase over FY24.
2. Full funding of ODPa to continue moving towards innovative and results-oriented budgeting.
3. No non-profit should be funded that did not participate in a competitive application process.

### **Excellent & Equitable Service Delivery**

***Excellent & Equitable Service Delivery:*** As we prioritize growth, we must not lose sight of making sure the City continues to provide excellent services to the people of Cincinnati. Maintaining and strengthening city services is important as we seek to encourage people to visit, invest in, and move to Cincinnati. Our workers are the backbone of the City and we have to make sure they are properly supported and invested in so that they can continue to provide excellent service to the people of Cincinnati and keep it a wonderful place to live.

1. Fund a study by a third-party vendor to evaluate the City's hiring process, benefits, salary structures, and anything else that impacts hiring and retention of employees across departments.
2. Investment in technology upgrades and personnel for the City's Law, Community Economic Development, Building and Inspections, and City Planning and Engagement Departments to ensure that their critical and time-sensitive work is properly supported, with particular focus on the following goals:
  - o NBDIP and NOFA projects contracted by December 31 of the year they are awarded.
  - o Contracts completed by the Law Department within 30 business days of being in our control to respond to them. This does not include time waiting for a response from the negotiating party.
  - o Leveraged support programs contracted by the end of July in the year they are awarded.
  - o Permit approval within 2.5 reviews by the Building and Inspections Department.



Councilmember Seth Walsh





**Scotty Johnson**  
Councilmember

302401084

## Memo

### *Council Member Johnson's FY25's Budget Priorities*

1. **Public Safety**
  - Recruitment for Police & Fire
  - Youth Violence Prevention
  - Youth Employment
  
2. **Thriving Neighborhoods**
  - Affordable Housing
  
3. **Growing Economic Opportunity**
  - Rising 15 Economic Development
  - Funding for Office of Equity
  
4. **Fiscal Sustainability**
  - Funding for MBE's & SBE's
  - Cities Aging Infrastructure
  
5. **Excellent and Equitable Service Delivery**
  - Information Technology Update Funding



**Victoria Parks**  
*President Pro Tempore*

202401085

April 5th, 2024

## Councilmember Victoria Parks Budget Priorities for FY25 Recommended Budget

### **Public Safety**

- **Youth and young adult shelter and homelessness prevention** to keep people off the streets and support people in need.
  - Thousands of Cincinnati children are currently experiencing homelessness. Providing support for them now is a wise investment to put them on the right track.

### **Thriving Neighborhoods**

- **Youth arts programs** to foster growth and set children up for success.
  - Arts programs, particularly those aimed at youth, have been shown to improve the lives of countless people. These programs also provide a valuable and productive “third space” for children when they are not at home or at school.

### **Growing Economic Opportunity**

- **Jobs training programs** aimed at giving all people access to economic self-sufficiency.
- **Youth job opportunities**, particularly ones which will give young people a powerful cultural experience

### **Fiscal Sustainability**

- **Increased focus on grants for the city.** Money spent on grant writing provides a tremendous ROI for the city, and a larger investment in grant writing will pay off tenfold.

### **Excellent and Equitable Service Delivery**

- **Keeping seniors in their homes** through programs aimed at supporting low income seniors.



202401086

**Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney**  
*Vice Mayor*

April 5, 2024

## Motion for Budget Priorities FY '25

The ultimate goal is to help every resident and every neighborhood to thrive. That means addressing the challenges of health and wealth disparities, housing and food insecurity, and physical and mental health. It means promoting public safety, thriving neighborhoods, growth in jobs and business opportunities. It's imperative that we make funding decisions through a lens of equity so that all of our residents across the city have the chance to live their best lives, to be healthy, and to prosper.

Many worthy organizations have applied for leveraged funding support, and we look forward to reviewing and commenting on the City Manager's and Mayor's funding recommendations for those organizations when available in the next few weeks.

We propose the following funding priorities under the five strategic goals that the administration is considering for the FY '25 budget:

### Public Safety

- Advance Peace – a community-led violence interruption program that is successfully reducing violence in other cities across the country by creating opportunities for **local residents** who are credible messengers to lead and do the work in our neighborhoods to reduce gun violence.
- Establishment of a robust Office of Equity to monitor and target the racial health and wealth gap, address underlying uses of violence such as poverty and hopelessness, and create a culture of trauma-informed policy across City departments in conjunction with organizations including the Center for Closing the Health Gap and All-In Cincinnati.
- Programs for youth that create mentorships, recreation, career exploration and opportunities, education/tutoring support, and conflict resolution training

### Thriving Neighborhoods

- Promotion of community engagement across all departments
- Bringing the NSP funding per community council back to \$10,000 per year
- Training for community councils to increase participation
- Technical tools to provide communication to all residents concerning upcoming development proposals as well as meetings and events, especially those in their neighborhood



### **Thriving Neighborhoods (Continued)**

- Step Up – a program that reduces homelessness and provides 24/7 wraparound services for individuals and families who have moved from the streets to safe and permanent housing (a “Housing First” model)
- Recreation and childcare
- Opportunities in the arts – ArtWorks, Revolution Dance

### **Growing Economic Opportunity**

- Employment opportunities for adults and youth, especially in the trades: Building Futures, Career Pathways Initiative, City’s apprenticeship programs
- Support for MidwestCon, BlackTech Week, and other initiatives that increase opportunities for training and growth in the hot tech job market and thereby attract tech start-ups and youth to move to Cincinnati
- Furthering City Council’s Equitable Development Policy by addressing the barriers for MBEs and WBEs: access to capital, first-time bonding, and capacity.
- Support for organizations that support and help to grow our small businesses, especially MBEs and WBEs

### **Fiscal Sustainability**

A plan to address the City’s budget deficit, correct the shortfalls in the pension fund, and equitably disperse any balance of ARPA dollars held in reserve.

### **Excellent and Equitable Service Delivery**

Tracking in a transparent and easily accessible manner across zip codes and neighborhoods the following:

- 1) expenditures of City funds, including but not limited to the funds from the sale of the Cincinnati Southern Railway,
- 2) number and amount of residential and commercial tax abatements, and
- 3) affordable housing for individuals and families whose annual income is at or below 60 percent of the Area Median Income.



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