



EMERGENCY

City of Cincinnati

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

-2021

**AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate grant resources in an amount up to \$25,000 from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Canopy Restoration Grant Program for the purpose of providing funding for the restoration and improvement of urban forests, specifically in the Lower Price Hill and Queensgate neighborhoods; and **AUTHORIZING** the Finance Director to deposit the grant funds into Urban Forestry Fund 428.

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources has made grant funds available to local agencies through funds supplied by the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry Program for the purpose of restoring and improving urban forests; and

WHEREAS, there is a critical need to restore and improve urban forests due to catastrophic losses from Emerald Ash Borers and to reduce the impact of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Parks Department performed a geospatial analysis to identify the best locations for planting trees based upon low canopy coverage, high heat island impacts, and proximity to at-risk and marginalized communities; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Price Hill Community Council requested tree planting through the FY 2022 Community Budget Request Process, and the Urban Forestry Program's South District Forester has been working with the community on this project; and

WHEREAS, thirty-eight trees will be planted in the Lower Price Hill neighborhood and eighty-two trees will be planted in the Queensgate neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the required match of \$25,000 will be partially offset by Parks Department staff expenses valued at \$20,000, and the remaining \$5,000 local match amount will come from existing resources available in Forestry Special Assessment Fund 792; and

WHEREAS, no additional FTEs are associated with this grant; and

WHEREAS, the Parks Department has already applied for the grant, but will not accept grant resources without approval of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, acceptance of the grant is in accordance with the "Sustain" goal to "[p]reserve our natural and built environment," and strategy to "[p]rotect our natural resources," as well as the "Collaborate" goal to "[w]ork in synergy with the Cincinnati Community," and strategy to "[u]nite our communities," as described on pages 194-196 and 210-212 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 hereby authorized to apply for, accept, and appropriate grant resources in an amount up to \$25,000 from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Canopy Restoration Grant Program for the purpose of providing funding for the restoration and improvement of urban forests, specifically in the Lower Price Hill and Queensgate neighborhoods.

Section 2. That the Director of Finance is hereby authorized to deposit the grant funds into Urban Forestry Fund 428.

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

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 need to accept grant resources in a timely manner.

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Cranley, Mayor

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