



Greg Landsman
Councilmember

January 25 2021

Sewer Payment Relief to Lower-Income Ratepayers
MOTION

Last year, the City of Cincinnati created a financial forgiveness program for Greater Cincinnati Waterworks' low-income customers. This project—enabled by our City's "Home Rule"—gave direct relief to struggling families amidst the Coronavirus pandemic.

The Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD), however, has split possession; Hamilton County owns MSD, the City of Cincinnati runs it. Due to this arrangement, the City is barred from exploring any meaningful relief programs for low-income rate-payers, and the County has to spend millions on outside consultants and lawyers to perform its role in the MSD relationship.

WE MOVE that the Administration conduct a report on the potential savings for low-income ratepayers if MSD were able to leverage the City's Home Rule advantage, as well as the savings associated with the aforementioned millions in outside consultants and lawyers with an updated relationship between the City and County. By conducting such a report, we could better determine the positive impacts of an updated partnership between the City and County.

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