AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for a grant of up to \$15,000 from the Urban Sustainability Directors Network to create a Higher-Education Sustainability Cohort in partnership with Last Mile Food Rescue.

WHEREAS, a grant of up to \$15,000 is available from the Urban Sustainability Directors Network ("USDN") to create a Higher-Education Sustainability Cohort that will convene a dialogue regarding sustainability efforts and best practices among regional higher education institutions and their student bodies; and

WHEREAS, the cohort will be tasked with developing a project to decrease student food insecurity and divert food waste from landfills; and

WHEREAS, because the City is a member of USDN, it served as the lead applicant on the USDN grant application, but Last Mile Food Rescue will receive the grant resources directly from USDN; and

WHEREAS, Last Mile Food Rescue will be the designated project partner and fiscal agent of the USDN grant resources and will execute an MOU with USDN; and

WHEREAS, the City, as the grant applicant, will execute an MOU with USDN in order to administer the grant; and

WHEREAS, this grant does not require matching resources, and there are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with this grant, however, the City will provide in-kind staff time toward the project; and

WHEREAS, the City already applied for the USDN grant, but the Office of Environment and Sustainability will not take further action to implement the grant and will not enter into an agreement with USDN to administer the grant to create a Higher-Education Sustainability Cohort without approval by Council; and

WHEREAS, creating the Higher-Education Sustainability Cohort 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" and the "Collaborate" goal to "[s]peak in a unified voice with other entities to reach regional goals" and strategy to "[a]ctively coordinate our regional efforts" as described on pages 181-186 and 213-216 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 a grant of up to \$15,000 from the Urban Sustainability Directors Network for the purpose of creating a Higher-Education Sustainability Cohort.

Section 2. That the proper City officials are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and proper to comply with the terms of the grant and Section 1.

Section 3. 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 create the Higher-Education Sustainability Cohort within the established project timeline.

Passed:		, 2024	
			Aftab Pureval, Mayor
Attest:			
	Clerk		