



# City of Cincinnati Cincinnati City Council Meeting Minutes

801 Plum Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

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**Wednesday, March 19, 2025      2:00 PM      Council Chambers, Room 300**

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Council convened at 2:10 P.M., Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Kearney, Presiding.

## **ROLL CALL**

Councilmember Anna Albi, President Pro Tempore Victoria Parks, Councilmember Seth Walsh, Councilmember Scotty Johnson, Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Kearney, Councilmember Jeff Cramerding, Councilmember Mark Jeffreys, Councilmember Meeka Owens, and Councilmember Evan Nolan

In attendance were City Manager Sheryl Long, City Solicitor Emily Smart Woerner and Clerk of Council Melissa Autry.

**Council observed a moment of silent prayer and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.**

**There being no objection, the Minutes of the previous session of Council were Approved and Filed.**

**MAYOR AFTAB**

**MS. KEARNEY**

**MS. PARKS**

**MR. WALSH**

**MS. ALBI**

**MR. CRAMERDING**

**MR. JEFFREYS**

**MR. JOHNSON**

**MR. NOLAN**

**MS. OWENS**

**1. RESOLUTION**, submitted by Mayor Aftab Pureval, Vice Mayor Kearney,

**[202500535](#)**

Councilmembers Parks, Walsh, Albi, Cramerding, Jeffreys, Johnson, Nolan and Owens, from Emily Smart Woerner, City Solicitor, **RECOGNIZING** Sharon Coolidge and **EXPRESSING** the appreciation of the Mayor and the Council of the City of Cincinnati for Sherry and her eleven-year career reporting on Cincinnati City Hall for The Cincinnati Enquirer.

Passed

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
President Pro Tempore Parks  
Councilmember Walsh  
Councilmember Johnson  
Vice Mayor Kearney  
Councilmember Cramerding  
Councilmember Jeffreys  
Councilmember Owens  
Councilmember Nolan  
Enactment No: 0013-2025

### MR. WALSH

2. **MOTION**, submitted by Councilmember Walsh, **WE MOVE** that the Administration provide a report within forty-five (45) days regarding all policies related to TIF funding and how it be utilized. This report should be an audit of all policies adopted by Council or implemented by the Administration since the establishment of the TIFs as well as the adoption date of each policy. (STATEMENT ATTACHED)

[202500505](#)

Referred to Budget & Finance Committee

### CITY MANAGER

3. **REPORT**, dated 3/19/2025 submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on a communication from the State of Ohio, Division of Liquor Control, advising of a permit application for Pour Candle Co, DBA Pour Candle Bar, 5852 Hamilton Avenue. #7035408, New, D5J) [Objections: None]

[202500492](#)

Filed

4. **REPORT**, dated 3/19/2025 submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on a communication from the State of Ohio, Division of Liquor Control, advising of a permit application for 124 Findlay LLC, 1800 Race Street. (#65162390005, TRFO, D1 D2 D3 D3A D6) [Objections: None]

[202500493](#)

Filed

5. **ORDINANCE** submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 3/19/2025, **AMENDING** Ordinance No. 99-2023 to increase the amount of funding the City Manager is authorized to accept from the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (ALN 20.205) awarded through the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments, from \$1,199,998 to \$1,325,370 and to appropriate the additional \$125,372 to

[202500522](#)

existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x222355, "Wasson Way Federal STBG 2022," to provide additional resources to complete the Wasson Way Trail project.

Referred to Budget & Finance Committee

6. **ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY)** submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 3/19/2025, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$3,536 from the State of Ohio, Office of the Attorney General, National Crime Victims' Rights Week Community Awareness Project to provide resources for the Cincinnati Police Department's Victims Assistance Liaison Unit and the Cincinnati Citizens Respect Our Witnesses program to host the 9th Annual Homicide Memorial Ceremony; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant funds into Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368x8533, project account no. 25CVRW. [202500523](#)

Referred to Budget & Finance Committee

7. **ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY)** submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 3/19/2025, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate energy credits from energy projects and U.S. Department of the Treasury Elective Pay benefits of up to \$1,100,000 in FY 2025 to Revolving Energy Loan Fund 883 to reinvest resources into other City energy projects; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit proceeds into Revolving Energy Loan Fund 883 revenue account no. 883x8569. [202500524](#)

Referred to Budget & Finance Committee

### CLERK OF COUNCIL

8. **STATEMENT**, submitted by the Clerk of Council formally filing a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement for Daniel G. Jones/Recreation/Division Manager P & D. [202500507](#)  
Filed
9. **STATEMENT**, submitted by the Clerk of Council formally filing a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement for Hanna Suhail Khoury/ETS/Information Technology Manager. [202500508](#)  
Filed
10. **STATEMENT**, submitted by the Clerk of Council formally filing a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement for Oliver Louis Kroner/Office of Environment & Sustainability/Director. [202500509](#)  
Filed
11. **STATEMENT**, submitted by the Clerk of Council formally filing a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement for Sheryl Marie Long/City Manager [202500510](#)  
Filed
12. **STATEMENT**, submitted by the Clerk of Council formally filing a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement for Richard Joseph Merz III/Parks/Division Manager. [202500511](#)

- Filed
13. **STATEMENT**, submitted by the Clerk of Council formally filing a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement for Tara Jo Songer/Finance/Finance Manager. [202500512](#)
- Filed
14. **STATEMENT**, submitted by the Clerk of Council formally filing a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement for Sean Ware/ETS/Director. [202500513](#)
- Filed
15. **STATEMENT**, submitted by the Clerk of Council formally filing a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement for Andrea Yang/Interim Executive Director. [202500514](#)
- Filed
16. **REGISTRATION**, submitted by the Clerk of Council from Legislative Agent Michaela Burris, Ohio Justice & Policy Center, Policy Director, 341 South Third St., Columbus, Ohio 43215. (OHIO JUSTICE & POLICY CENTER) [202500516](#)
- Filed
17. **REGISTRATION**, submitted by the Clerk of Council from Legislative Agent Annalese Cahill, Government Affairs, Government Relations Manager, 225 E Fifth Street, Suite 1900 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. (H. HAFNER AND SONS INC) [202500517](#)
- Filed
18. **REGISTRATION**, submitted by the Clerk of Council from Legislative Agent Matt Davis, Government Affairs, Founder, 225 E Fifth Street, Suite 1900 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. (H. HAFNER AND SONS INC) [202500518](#)
- Filed
19. **REGISTRATION**, submitted by the Clerk of Council from Legislative Agent Colleen Reynolds, Government Affairs, Partner, 225 E Fifth Street, Suite 1900 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. (H. HAFNER AND SONS INC) [202500521](#)
- Filed

### **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

20. **MOTION (AMENDED)**, submitted by Councilmembers Jeffreys and Cramerding, **WE MOVE** that the Cincinnati Parks Department work with Great Parks of Hamilton County to evaluate: The Futures Commission's recommendation to have Great Parks manage Mt. Airy Forest and French Park, any associated costs to Great Parks, as well as any cost savings to Cincinnati Parks. (BALANCE ON FILE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE) (STATEMENT ATTACHED). [202500471](#)

Adopted

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
President Pro Tempore Parks  
Councilmember Walsh  
Councilmember Johnson  
Vice Mayor Kearney  
Councilmember Cramerding  
Councilmember Jeffreys  
Councilmember Owens  
Councilmember Nolan

- 21. MOTION**, submitted by Councilmembers Jeffreys and Cramerding, **WE MOVE** that within 90 days, the Cincinnati Parks Department and Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC) evaluate the Futures Commission's proposal for transferring the management of the 954 acres of greenspace currently under CRC to Cincinnati Parks, including any implications for staffing, equipment, potential cost savings, and the ability of CRC to focus on managing recreation centers and continue to deliver best-in-class programming. (STATEMENT ATTACHED).

[202500472](#)

Adopted

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
President Pro Tempore Parks  
Councilmember Walsh  
Councilmember Johnson  
Vice Mayor Kearney  
Councilmember Cramerding  
Councilmember Jeffreys  
Councilmember Owens  
Councilmember Nolan

- 22. ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY)** submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 3/12/2025, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a U.S. Department of Energy Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation grant (ALN 81.117) of up to \$100,000 from the University of Cincinnati to Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 to research and develop building performance standards; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant funds into Environment and Sustainability Fund revenue account no. 436x8543, Office of Environment and Sustainability project account no. 25DOERECL, "FY 2025 DOE Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation."

[202500461](#)

Passed Emergency

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
 President Pro Tempore Parks  
 Councilmember Walsh  
 Councilmember Johnson  
 Vice Mayor Kearney  
 Councilmember Cramerding  
 Councilmember Jeffreys  
 Councilmember Owens  
 Councilmember Nolan  
 Enactment No: 0056-2025

Emergency clause to remain

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
 President Pro Tempore Parks  
 Councilmember Walsh  
 Councilmember Johnson  
 Vice Mayor Kearney  
 Councilmember Cramerding  
 Councilmember Jeffreys  
 Councilmember Owens  
 Councilmember Nolan  
 Enactment No: 0056-2025

Suspension of the three readings

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
 President Pro Tempore Parks  
 Councilmember Walsh  
 Councilmember Johnson  
 Vice Mayor Kearney  
 Councilmember Cramerding  
 Councilmember Jeffreys  
 Councilmember Owens  
 Councilmember Nolan  
 Enactment No: 0056-2025

**23. ORDINANCE** submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 3/12/2025, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$15,881 from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Mosquito Control Grant Program to investigate the prevalence of mosquito vectors and the incidence of infection in the mosquito populations, to identify density locations for mosquito vector species, and to educate communities in the immediate area on how to reduce the mosquito populations; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant funds into Public Health Research Fund

[202500462](#)

revenue account no. 350x8536.

Passed

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
President Pro Tempore Parks  
Councilmember Walsh  
Councilmember Johnson  
Vice Mayor Kearney  
Councilmember Cramerding  
Councilmember Jeffreys  
Councilmember Owens  
Councilmember Nolan  
Enactment No: 0057-2025

Suspension of the three readings

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
President Pro Tempore Parks  
Councilmember Walsh  
Councilmember Johnson  
Vice Mayor Kearney  
Councilmember Cramerding  
Councilmember Jeffreys  
Councilmember Owens  
Councilmember Nolan  
Enactment No: 0057-2025

## **SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

### **PUBLIC SAFETY & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

- 24. ORDINANCE**, submitted by Councilmember Jeffreys, from Emily Smart Woerner, City Solicitor, **MODIFYING** Chapter 723, "Streets and Sidewalks, Use Regulations," by **ORDAINING** new Section 723-77, "Trespass in a Designated Bus Rapid Transit Zone," and by **AMENDING** Section 723-26, "Designated Streetcar Transit Zone," to promote the safe and efficient operation of a bus rapid transit system in the public right-of-way.

[202500335](#)

Indefinitely Postponed

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
 President Pro Tempore Parks  
 Councilmember Walsh  
 Councilmember Johnson  
 Vice Mayor Kearney  
 Councilmember Cramerding  
 Councilmember Jeffreys  
 Councilmember Owens  
 Councilmember Nolan

**25. ORDINANCE (B VERSION)**, submitted by Councilmember Jeffreys, from Emily Smart Woerner, City Solicitor, **MODIFYING** Chapter 723, "Streets and Sidewalks, Use Regulations," by **ORDAINING** new Section 723-77, "Trespass in a Designated Bus Rapid Transit Zone," and by **AMENDING** Section 723-26, "Designated Streetcar Transit Zone," to promote the safe and efficient operation of a bus rapid transit system in the public right-of-way.

[202500544](#)

Passed

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
 President Pro Tempore Parks  
 Councilmember Walsh  
 Councilmember Johnson  
 Vice Mayor Kearney  
 Councilmember Cramerding  
 Councilmember Jeffreys  
 Councilmember Owens  
 Councilmember Nolan  
 Enactment No: 0058-2025

Suspension of the three readings

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
 President Pro Tempore Parks  
 Councilmember Walsh  
 Councilmember Johnson  
 Vice Mayor Kearney  
 Councilmember Cramerding  
 Councilmember Jeffreys  
 Councilmember Owens  
 Councilmember Nolan  
 Enactment No: 0058-2025

**26. ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY)** submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 3/12/2025, **MODIFYING** Chapter 307, "Classified Compensation Schedules," of the Cincinnati Municipal Code by

[202500460](#)



**AMENDING** Section 634 to move the classification of Carpenter from Division 03 to Division D1.

Passed Emergency

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
President Pro Tempore Parks  
Councilmember Walsh  
Councilmember Johnson  
Vice Mayor Kearney  
Councilmember Cramerding  
Councilmember Jeffreys  
Councilmember Owens  
Councilmember Nolan  
Enactment No: 0059-2025

Emergency clause to remain

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
President Pro Tempore Parks  
Councilmember Walsh  
Councilmember Johnson  
Vice Mayor Kearney  
Councilmember Cramerding  
Councilmember Jeffreys  
Councilmember Owens  
Councilmember Nolan  
Enactment No: 0059-2025

Suspension of the three readings

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
President Pro Tempore Parks  
Councilmember Walsh  
Councilmember Johnson  
Vice Mayor Kearney  
Councilmember Cramerding  
Councilmember Jeffreys  
Councilmember Owens  
Councilmember Nolan  
Enactment No: 0059-2025

**HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE**

**27. ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY)**, submitted by Vice Mayor Kearney, from Emily Smart Woerner, City Solicitor, **DECLARING** that Windsor Street at Gilbert Avenue in the Walnut Hills neighborhood shall hereby receive the

[202500464](#)

honorary, secondary name of "Larry A. Donald Way" in honor of Larry A. Donald, and in recognition of his contributions to the Cincinnati community and the sport of boxing.

### Passed Emergency

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
President Pro Tempore Parks  
Councilmember Walsh  
Councilmember Johnson  
Vice Mayor Kearney  
Councilmember Cramerding  
Councilmember Jeffreys  
Councilmember Owens  
Councilmember Nolan  
Enactment No: 0060-2025

### Emergency clause to remain

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
President Pro Tempore Parks  
Councilmember Walsh  
Councilmember Johnson  
Vice Mayor Kearney  
Councilmember Cramerding  
Councilmember Jeffreys  
Councilmember Owens  
Councilmember Nolan  
Enactment No: 0060-2025

### Suspension of the three readings

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
President Pro Tempore Parks  
Councilmember Walsh  
Councilmember Johnson  
Vice Mayor Kearney  
Councilmember Cramerding  
Councilmember Jeffreys  
Councilmember Owens  
Councilmember Nolan  
Enactment No: 0060-2025

- 28. MOTION**, submitted by Councilmember Albi, **WE MOVE** that the City Administration implement an opt-in text messaging pilot program leveraging either our existing CincyAlerts platform or another community engagement platform. This program would ensure that the City is

[202500468](#)

proactive in using push communication to inform residents about important events happening in Cincinnati. (BALANCE ON FILE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE).

Adopted

**Yes:** Councilmember Albi  
President Pro Tempore Parks  
Councilmember Walsh  
Councilmember Johnson  
Vice Mayor Kearney  
Councilmember Cramerding  
Councilmember Jeffreys  
Councilmember Owens  
Councilmember Nolan

**No announcements at this time.**

Council adjourned at 3:01 P.M.