



City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Agenda - Final-revised

Budget, Finance & Governance Committee

Chairperson Jeff Cramerding
Vice Chair Evan Nolan
Councilmember Mark Jeffreys
Councilmember Anna Albi
Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Kearney
Councilmember Meeka Owens
Councilmember Scotty Johnson
Councilmember Seth Walsh
Councilmember Ryan James

Monday, April 13, 2026

1:00 PM

Council Chambers, Room 300

AGENDA

MOTIONS

1. [202601217](#) **MOTION**, submitted by Councilmembers Cramerding, Jeffreys, Walsh, James, Albi and Nolan, **WE MOVE** that the Law Department review Chapter 769 of the Cincinnati Municipal Code “Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity Change Efforts” and suggest any changes to protect the law against challenges as a result of *Chiles v. Salazar*. (BALANCE ON FILE IN THE CLERK’S OFFICE)

Sponsors: Cramerding, Jeffreys, Walsh, James, Albi and Nolan

Attachments: [Motion](#)

2. [202601368](#) **MOTION**, submitted by Councilmembers Cramerding, Nolan, Albi and Owens, **WE MOVE** that the City Administration prepare a Fiscal Year 2027 recommended General Fund Budget which respects the following policy guidelines and priorities (BALANCE ON FILE IN THE CLERKS OFFICE)

Sponsors: Cramerding, Nolan, Albi and Owens

Attachments: [Motion](#)

MUNICIPAL CODE CHANGES

3. [202601229](#) **ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY)** submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 4/9/2026, **MODIFYING** the provisions of Chapter 307, “Classified Compensation Schedules,” of the Cincinnati Municipal Code by **ORDAINING** new Section 060 of Division 5 to establish the classification title and salary range schedule for the new employment classification of Chief of Staff for the City Manager.

Sponsors: City Manager

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

PAYMENTS

4. [202601234](#) **ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY)** submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 4/8/2026, **AUTHORIZING** the payment of \$33,000 to Rehrig Pacific Company, including \$1,211 from permanent improvement program project account no. 758x253x252537, "Trash Receptacles & Collection Carts," and \$31,789 from permanent improvement program project account no. 758x253x262537, "Trash Receptacles & Collection Carts," as a moral obligation for 600 95-gallon EnviroGuard Roll-Out Carts purchased by the Department of Public Services Neighborhood Operations Division.

Sponsors: City Manager

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

GRANTS

5. [202601236](#) **ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY)** submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 4/8/2026, **ESTABLISHING** new capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, "Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant," to provide resources for the design of the Taxiway D reconstruction project and the design of the obstruction removal project adjacent to Runway 7 at Lunken Airport; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate an Airport Improvement Program grant of up to \$294,000 awarded through the Federal Aviation Administration (ALN 20.106) to the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, "Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant," to provide resources for the design of the Taxiway D reconstruction project and the design of the obstruction removal project adjacent to Runway 7 at Lunken Airport; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into newly established capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, "Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant"; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to execute any agreements and do all things necessary for the receipt and administration of these grant resources.

Sponsors: City Manager

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

6. [202601237](#) **ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY)** submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 4/8/2026, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for a grant awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation's Safe Routes to School program of up to \$1,000,000 to provide resources for a pedestrian and bicycle project focused on providing students of local schools with safe routes to school.

Sponsors: City Manager

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

7. [202601238](#) **ORDINANCE** submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 4/8/2026, **ESTABLISHING** new capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, "Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594," to provide resources for improving pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a grant of up to \$609,300 from the Ohio Department of Transportation ("ODOT") Highway Safety Improvement Program (ALN 20.272) to the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, "Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594"; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, "Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594"; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to enter into a Local Public Agency agreement with ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to do all things necessary to cooperate with the Director of ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project.

Sponsors: City Manager

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

8. [202601352](#) **ORDINANCE (B VERSION)** submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, on 4/13/2026, **ESTABLISHING** new capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, "Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594," to provide resources for improving pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a grant of up to \$670,230 from the Ohio Department of Transportation ("ODOT") Highway Safety Improvement Program (ALN 20.272) to the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, "Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594"; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, "Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594"; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to enter into a Local Public Agency agreement with ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to do all things necessary to cooperate with the Director of ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project.

Sponsors: City Manager

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

COMMUNICATIONS

9. [202601206](#) **COMMUNICATION**, submitted by Councilmember Walsh regarding Budget Priorities for FY27 Recommended Budget.
Sponsors: Walsh
Attachments: [Communication](#)
10. [202601207](#) **COMMUNICATION**, submitted by Councilmember Johnson regarding Budget Priorities for FY27 Recommended Budget.
Sponsors: Johnson
Attachments: [Communication](#)
11. [202601208](#) **COMMUNICATION**, submitted by Councilmember Owens regarding Budget Priorities for FY27 Recommended Budget.
Sponsors: Owens
Attachments: [Communication](#)
12. [202601209](#) **COMMUNICATION**, submitted by Councilmember Jeffreys regarding Budget Priorities for FY27 Recommended Budget.
Sponsors: Jeffreys
Attachments: [Communication](#)
13. [202601226](#) **COMMUNICATION**, submitted by Councilmember Nolan regarding Budget Priorities for FY27 Recommended Budget.
Sponsors: Nolan
Attachments: [Communication](#)
14. [202601227](#) **COMMUNICATION**, submitted by Vice Mayor Kearney regarding Budget Priorities for FY27 Recommended Budget.
Sponsors: Kearney
Attachments: [Communication](#)
15. [202601230](#) **COMMUNICATION**, submitted by Councilmember James regarding Budget Priorities for FY27 Recommended Budget.
Sponsors: James
Attachments: [Communication](#)
16. [202601232](#) **COMMUNICATION**, submitted by Councilmember Albi regarding Budget Priorities for FY27 Recommended Budget.
Attachments: [Communication](#)

ADJOURNMENT



202601217

Jeff Cramerding
Councilmember

In 2015, Cincinnati City Council voted to ban conversion therapy in the city. This “therapy” attempts to change a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity and has been widely discredited and proven harmful.

On March 31st, 2026, the Supreme Court ruled against Colorado’s ban on conversion therapy in *Chiles v. Salazar*, ruling that the ban was an unlawful violation of free speech. This could result in conversion therapy bans all across the country being struck down and putting countless LGBTQ+ youth in danger.

The Supreme Court’s opinion focused on specific portions of Colorado’s ban that are similar to Cincinnati’s ban. With some wording changes, it is possible to preserve the law and continue to protect Cincinnati’s LGBTQ+ youth.

WE MOVE that the Law Department review Chapter 769 of the Cincinnati Municipal Code “Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity Change Efforts” and suggest any changes to protect the law against challenges as a result of *Chiles v. Salazar*.

JEFF CRAMERDING

[Signature]

Anna Alli

[Signature]

Ryan James

Evan T. Nolan

Refer to Budget, Finance, and Governance

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Jeff Cramerding
Councilmember

4/13/2026

MOTION

Council Priority Budget Motion

WE MOVE that the City Administration prepare a Fiscal Year 2027 Recommended General Fund Budget which respects the following policy guidelines and priorities:

Police and Fire

1. Prioritize public safety so that all essential functions, including enhanced police visibility and technology updates (surveillance cameras, FUSUS, drones), are maintained and the proposed recruit classes continue on schedule.

Public Services & Infrastructure

2. The Department of Public Services has made tremendous and noticeable strides under new leadership, including successful winter operation. DPS must have the resources (personnel, fleet, technology) necessary for improvements to year round service delivery, including pothole repair and litter cleanup.
3. Improve process for expedited deployment of Cincy on Track funds to accelerate investments in deferred capital maintenance and road repairs.
4. Continue to invest in the priorities outlined in the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan.
5. Extend the residential sidewalk repair program and prioritize repairing City-owned sidewalks.
6. Continue the City's partnership with the County regarding the Regional Safety Complex, specifically related to requested updates to the Complex from CPD.

Housing and Economic Development

7. Fund the Office of Strategic Growth with adequate staffing and resources.
8. Create a neighborhood development fund that catalyzes housing and development, with an emphasis on major transit corridors, neighborhoods where there are no TIFs or the TIFs are not producing sufficient revenue, and neighborhoods where development is not occurring. The administration should examine and restructure existing capital programs into a more consolidated and clear structure to accomplish the goals listed above. This

should also include an examination of current TIF districts, possible restructuring and the creation of new TIFs.¹

9. Continue funding the Affordable Housing Leverage Fund.

Violence Reduction

10. Continue investment and implementation of ACT for Cincy violence reduction portfolio and action teams.
11. Maintain funding for Boots on the Ground and Safe and Clean grant programs.
12. Maintain funding for ARC, Community Responders teams, Victims Liaison Unit, and violence reduction partnerships.
13. Fund the installation of additional lights and cameras inside City-owned parks, playgrounds, and recreational areas.

Human Services

14. Maintain funding for the Human Services Fund at 1.5% of the General Fund.
15. Invest in the City's Access to Counsel program.
16. Expand Rec @ Nite in partnership with Cincinnati Public Schools.

Economic Inclusion

17. Invest in MORTAR for economic development and job readiness.
18. Deploy existing funding for minority-owned businesses through Represent Cincy.
19. Increase investments in lead abatement programs that protect children under six from lead poisoning.
20. Fund the Department of Opportunity & Resident Services with adequate staffing and resources.

Economic Development

21. Fund CincyTech, Cintrifuse, REDI, the Port, and the Cincinnati Sports Commission to create and attract jobs.
22. Continue to invest in Red Bike's "Strengthen and Sustain" plan.
23. Support Findlay Market's capital campaign.

Youth Workforce Development

24. Expand and streamline the City's youth workforce development programs. The program should:

¹ In line with Motion 202600419 from Councilmember Walsh.

- Connect youth to jobs year-round
- Work with external partners for job placement
- Act as a one-stop-shop for the City's programs to refer applicants to programs such as Career Pathways Initiative, Youth 2 Work, and the City's green jobs programs.

Internal City Investments

25. Continue to fund the City's pension contribution at 19.25%.
26. No budget cuts to personnel, outside of vacancy savings.

Arts, Culture, and Major Events

27. Provide funding to the Farmer Music Center as directed by prior Council resolution.

Revenue Generators and Efficiencies

28. Optimize parking revenue through new enforcement officers and enforcement citywide.
29. Examine the Cincinnati Accessibility Board of Advisors' resolution creating a volunteer parking enforcement unit of Cincinnatians with disabilities to enforce accessible parking laws.
30. Charge higher fees for non-city residents for certain City services such as park rentals, summer camps, and golf fees.
31. Continue to expand the Building Inspector Training Academy and fund inspectors for enforcement of the Vacant Building Registry, where fees are projected to cover 100%+ of the funding needed for the program.
32. Consolidate landscaping and facility maintenance for CRC and Parks where feasible.
33. Pursue reimbursements from Ohio Highway Patrol for crash responses and ODOT for snow and litter removal on State Routes in the City.

~~Jeff~~ Ornes

Evan Nolan

Anna Elli

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April 8, 2026

To: Mayor and Members of City Council 202601229
From: Sheryl M.M. Long, City Manager
Subject: **Emergency Ordinance: Chief of Staff for the City Manager**

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

MODIFYING the provisions of Chapter 307, “Classified Compensation Schedules,” of the Cincinnati Municipal Code by **ORDAINING** new Section 060 of Division 5 to establish the classification title and salary range schedule for the new employment classification of Chief of Staff for the City Manager.

The Department of Human Resources has done its due diligence and conducted appropriate internal comparisons to ensure that the new salary range is consistent with the scope of services and the level of responsibility. The creation of the Chief of Staff, City Manager’s Office, is necessary to attract and retain a quality employee, and to ensure consistency in the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to carry out the duties and tasks prescribed to the position.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Latisha Hazell, HR Director

EMERGENCY

AEP

-2026

MODIFYING the provisions of Chapter 307, “Classified Compensation Schedules,” of the Cincinnati Municipal Code by **ORDAINING** new Section 060 of Division 5 to establish the classification title and salary range schedule for the new employment classification of Chief of Staff for the City Manager.

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Department, in consultation with the City Manager’s Office, has determined that it is necessary to create a new Chief of Staff for the City Manager classification specification to recruit and retain quality employees; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Staff for the City Manager classification and compensation plan is necessary to ensure consistency in the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to carry out the duties and tasks prescribed for the position; and

WHEREAS, the position is responsible for strategic leadership, coordination, and oversight of all offices, divisions, business functions, personnel, and general office operations for the Office of the City Manager; and

WHEREAS, this position will provide highly responsible and complex administrative and legislative support to the City Manager, including policy development, project oversight, and management of high-priority initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Department has performed due diligence and conducted appropriate internal comparisons to ensure that the new classification and salary range are consistent with the scope of work and the level of responsibility of the position of Chief of Staff for the City Manager, with factors considered throughout the evaluation process including scope of responsibility, judgment and independent action, and accountability; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That Section 060 of Division 5 of Chapter 307, “Classified Compensation Schedules,” of the Cincinnati Municipal Code is ordained as follows:

Section	Classification	Minimum Annual Salary	Maximum Annual Salary	Division
060	Chief of Staff for the City Manager	\$138,889.65	\$212,569.86	D5

Section 2. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the terms of 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 establish the new classification title and salary range schedule for Chief of Staff for the City Manager to recruit and retain qualified employees.

Passed: _____, 2026

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

April 8, 2026

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

202601234

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

**Subject: Emergency Ordinance – Public Services: Moral Obligation
Payment to Rehrig Pacific Company**

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the payment of \$33,000 to Rehrig Pacific Company, including \$1,211 from permanent improvement program project account no. 758x253x252537, “Trash Receptacles & Collection Carts,” and \$31,789 from permanent improvement program project account no. 758x253x262537, “Trash Receptacles & Collection Carts,” as a moral obligation for 600 95-gallon EnviroGuard Roll-Out Carts purchased by the Department of Public Services Neighborhood Operations Division.

This Emergency Ordinance authorizes the payment of \$33,000 to Rehrig Pacific Company, including \$1,211 from permanent improvement program project account no. 758x253x252537, “Trash Receptacles & Collection Carts,” and \$31,789 from permanent improvement program project account no. 758x253x262537, “Trash Receptacles & Collection Carts,” as a moral obligation for 600 95-gallon EnviroGuard Roll-Out Carts purchased by the Department of Public Services Neighborhood Operations Division (NOD). Sufficient funds are available to pay for the order.

On February 13, 2026, the Department of Public Services Neighborhood Operations Division placed an order with Rehrig Pacific Company for 600 95-gallon EnviroGuard Roll-Out Carts without certifying funds prior to placing the order. The City received an invoice for \$33,000 for the order from Rehrig Pacific Company on March 10, 2026. To prevent recurrence, the Department of Public Services has implemented safeguards requiring written approval for all future purchases from the Superintendent.

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to pay Rehrig Pacific Company for the outstanding charges in a timely manner.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Andrew Dudas, Budget Director
Steve Webb, Finance Director

Attachment

EMERGENCY

AEP

- 2026

AUTHORIZING the payment of \$33,000 to Rehrig Pacific Company, including \$1,211 from permanent improvement program project account no. 758x253x252537, “Trash Receptacles & Collection Carts,” and \$31,789 from permanent improvement program project account no. 758x253x262537, “Trash Receptacles & Collection Carts,” as a moral obligation for 600 95-gallon EnviroGuard Roll-Out Carts purchased by the Department of Public Services Neighborhood Operations Division.

WHEREAS, on February 13, 2026, the Department of Public Services Neighborhood Operations Division placed an order with Rehrig Pacific Company (“Contractor”) for 600 95-gallon EnviroGuard Roll-Out Carts without certifying funds prior to placing the order; and

WHEREAS, the City received an invoice for \$33,000 for the order from Contractor on March 10, 2026; and

WHEREAS, to prevent recurrence, the Department of Public Services has implemented safeguards requiring written approval from the Public Works Operation Superintendent for all future purchases; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funds are available in permanent improvement program project account no. 758x253x252537, “Trash Receptacles & Collection Carts,” and permanent improvement program project account no. 758x253x262537, “Trash Receptacles & Collection Carts,” to pay for the order; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to pay Contractor \$33,000 for the outstanding charges for EnviroGuard Roll-Out Carts; 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 pay \$33,000 to Rehrig Pacific Company, including \$1,211 from permanent improvement program project account no. 758x253x252537, “Trash Receptacles & Collection Carts,” and \$31,789 from permanent improvement program project account no. 758x253x262537, “Trash Receptacles & Collection Carts,” as a moral obligation for 600 95-gallon EnviroGuard Roll-Out Carts purchased by the Department of Public Services Neighborhood Operations Division.

Section 2. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the provisions of 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 pay Rehrig Pacific Company for the outstanding charges in a timely manner.

Passed: _____, 2026

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

April 8, 2026

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

202601236

Subject: Emergency Ordinance – DOTE: 2026 Airport Improvement Program FAA Grant Lunken

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

ESTABLISHING new capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, “Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant,” to provide resources for the design of the Taxiway D reconstruction project and the design of the obstruction removal project adjacent to Runway 7 at Lunken Airport; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate an Airport Improvement Program grant of up to \$294,000 awarded through the Federal Aviation Administration (ALN 20.106) to the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, “Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant,” to provide resources for the design of the Taxiway D reconstruction project and the design of the obstruction removal project adjacent to Runway 7 at Lunken Airport; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into newly established capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, “Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant”; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to execute any agreements and do all things necessary for the receipt and administration of these grant resources.

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance will authorize the following:

1. The City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$294,000 awarded through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport Improvement Program (AIP) to provide resources for the design of the Taxiway D reconstruction project and the design of the obstruction removal project adjacent to Runway 7 at Lunken Airport.
2. The Director of Finance to deposit grant resources into newly established capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, “Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant”.

Taxiway D at Lunken Airport has exceeded its useful life and no longer complies with current FAA taxiway design standards, requiring total pavement reconstruction and new lighting and signage to be installed. The approved Airport Layout Plan identifies Hangar 3 as an obstruction to Runway 07 at Lunken Airport, causing a safety deficiency that requires the removal of Hangar 3. The AIP grant would provide resources to support the design phase work on each of these projects, which is a prerequisite to a future construction phase.

Acceptance of this grant requires matching resources of up to \$32,667, which will be available in capital improvement program project account no. 980x234x222352, “FAA/ODOT Local Match,” as well as other future eligible grant awards. There are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with this grant

Designing improvements for Lunken Airport is in accordance with the “Connect” goal to “[d]evelop a regional transportation system that promotes economic vitality” as described on page 139 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to apply for the grant by May 1, 2026, to comply with the established FAA deadline.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Andrew Dudas, Budget Director
Steve Webb, Finance Director

Attachment



EMERGENCY

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ESTABLISHING new capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, “Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant,” to provide resources for the design of the Taxiway D reconstruction project and the design of the obstruction removal project adjacent to Runway 7 at Lunken Airport; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate an Airport Improvement Program grant of up to \$294,000 awarded through the Federal Aviation Administration (ALN 20.106) to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, “Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant,” to provide resources for the design of the Taxiway D reconstruction project and the design of the obstruction removal project adjacent to Runway 7 at Lunken Airport; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into newly established capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, “Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant”; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to execute any agreements and do all things necessary for the receipt and administration of these grant resources.

WHEREAS, a grant of up to \$294,000 is available from the Airport Improvement Program through the Federal Aviation Administration (“FAA”) to provide resources for the design of the Taxiway D reconstruction project and the design of the obstruction removal project adjacent to Runway 7 at Lunken Airport; and

WHEREAS, Taxiway D at Lunken Airport has exceeded its useful life and no longer complies with current FAA taxiway design standards, requiring total pavement reconstruction and new lighting and signage to be installed; and

WHEREAS, the approved Airport Layout Plan identifies Hangar 3 as an obstruction to Runway 7 at Lunken Airport, causing a safety deficiency that requires the removal of Hangar 3; and

WHEREAS, the grant funding would support the design phase work on each of these projects, which is a prerequisite to a future construction phase; and

WHEREAS, acceptance of this grant requires matching resources of up to \$32,667, which will be available in capital improvement program project account no. 980x234x222352, “FAA/ODOT Local Match,” as well from as other future eligible grant awards; and

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

WHEREAS, designing improvements for Lunken Airport is in accordance with the “Connect” goal to “[d]evelop a regional transportation system that promotes economic vitality” as described on page 139 of Plan Cincinnati (2012); now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That new capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, “Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant,” is established to provide resources for the design of the Taxiway D

reconstruction project and the design of the obstruction removal project adjacent to Runway 7 at Lunken Airport.

Section 2. That the City Manager is authorized to apply for, accept, and appropriate an Airport Improvement Program grant of up to \$294,000 awarded through the Federal Aviation Administration (ALN 20.106) to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, “Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant,” to provide resources for the design of the Taxiway D reconstruction project and the design of the obstruction removal project adjacent to Runway 7 at Lunken Airport.

Section 3. That the Director of Finance is authorized to deposit the grant resources into newly established capital improvement program project account no. 984x234x262356, “Lunken FAA 2026 AIP Grant.”

Section 4. That the City Manager is authorized to execute any agreements and do all things 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 carry out 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 apply for the grant by May 1, 2026, to comply with the established FAA deadline.

Passed: _____, 2026

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

April 8, 2026

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

20260123

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

Subject: Emergency Ordinance – DOTE: Safe Routes to School Grant Application

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for a grant awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation’s Safe Routes to School program of up to \$1,000,000 to provide resources for a pedestrian and bicycle project focused on providing students of local schools with safe routes to school.

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to apply for grant resources of up to \$1,000,000 awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) through the Safe Routes to School grant program to provide resources for a pedestrian and bicycle project focused on providing students of local schools with safe routes to school.

There are grant funds available from the Ohio Department of Transportation through the Safe Routes to School grant program that would assist with funding for the construction of a planned roadway project to install bicycle infrastructure and create safety improvements along Court Street downtown, including creating a bicycle connection and a comprehensive bicycle network in downtown, Over-the-Rhine, and the West End, and improving the intersection of Central Avenue and West 9th Street for safer crossings for pedestrians. Various pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements near local schools will provide safe and secure routes for students.

The grant application deadline was March 6, 2026, and the City has already applied for the grant, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by the City Council.

This grant does not require matching funds, and there are no new FTE/full time equivalents associated with the acceptance of these grant resources.

Providing students with pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements near local schools 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 127-137 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to meet the schedule requirements for the next round of funding and legislation due to ODOT by the deadline of May 1, 2026.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Andrew Dudas, Budget Director
Steve Webb, Finance Director

Attachments



EMERGENCY

KKF

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AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for a grant awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation’s Safe Routes to School program of up to \$1,000,000 to provide resources for a pedestrian and bicycle project focused on providing students of local schools with safe routes to school.

WHEREAS, various pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements near local schools will provide safe and secure routes for students; and

WHEREAS, a grant is available from the Ohio Department of Transportation through the Safe Routes to School grant program in an amount of up to \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the grant would assist with funding for the construction of a planned roadway project to install bicycle infrastructure and create safety improvements along Court Street downtown, including creating a bicycle connection and a comprehensive bicycle network in downtown, Over-the-Rhine, and the West End, and improving the intersection of Central Avenue and West 9th Street for safer crossings for pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, the grant application deadline was March 6, 2026, and the City has already applied for the grant, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by Council; and

WHEREAS, this grant does not require matching funds, and there are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with this grant; and

WHEREAS, providing students with pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements near local schools 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 127-137 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 awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation’s Safe Routes to School program of up to \$1,000,000 to provide resources for a pedestrian and bicycle project focused on providing students of local schools with safe routes to school.

Section 2. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out 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 meet the schedule requirements for the next round of funding and legislation due to ODOT by the deadline of May 1, 2026.

Passed: _____, 2026

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

April 8, 2026

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

20260123

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

Subject: Ordinance – DOTE: ODOT HSIP Systemic Safety Grant for Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2

Attached is an Ordinance captioned:

ESTABLISHING new capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594,” to provide resources for improving pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a grant of up to \$609,300 from the Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) Highway Safety Improvement Program (ALN 20.272) to the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594”; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594”; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to enter into a Local Public Agency agreement with ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to do all things necessary to cooperate with the Director of ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project.

Approval of this Ordinance authorizes the following:

1. The establishment of capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594,” to provide resources for improving pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods.
2. The City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$609,300 from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).
3. The Director of Finance to deposit resources into capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594”.

On March 12, 2025, the City Council passed Ordinance No. 52-2025, which authorized the City Manager to apply for funding from multiple HSIP grants

awarded by ODOT, with any awarded funds to be used to ensure the timely completion of various high-priority safety projects identified by the Department of Transportation and Engineering. ODOT has awarded the City funding of up to \$609,300 to improve pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by the City Council.

This grant requires matching resources of up to \$67,700, which will be provided from various existing capital improvement program project accounts. There are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with this grant.

Implementing pedestrian safety measures 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 127-137 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The Administration recommends passage of this Ordinance.

cc: Andrew Dudas, Budget Director
Steve Webb, Finance Director



Attachment

ESTABLISHING new capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594,” to provide resources for improving pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a grant of up to \$609,300 from the Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) Highway Safety Improvement Program (ALN 20.272) to the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594”; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594”; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to enter into a Local Public Agency agreement with ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to do all things necessary to cooperate with the Director of ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project.

WHEREAS, grants are available from the Ohio Department of Transportation’s (“ODOT”) Highway Safety Improvement Program (“HSIP”) to support projects that enhance roadway and pedestrian safety; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2025, Council passed Ordinance No. 52-2025, which authorized the City Manager to apply for funding from multiple HSIP grants awarded by ODOT, with any awarded funds to be used to ensure the timely completion of various high-priority safety projects identified by the Department of Transportation and Engineering; and

WHEREAS, ODOT has awarded the City funding of up to \$609,300 to improve pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by Council; and

WHEREAS, acceptance of this grant requires matching resources of up to \$67,700, which will be provided from various existing capital improvement program project accounts; and

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

WHEREAS, implementing pedestrian safety measures 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 127-137 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. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594,” to

provide resources for improving pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods.

Section 2. That the City Manager is authorized to accept and appropriate a grant of up to \$609,300 from the Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) Highway Safety Improvement Program (ALN 20.272) to the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594.”

Section 3. That the Director of Finance is authorized to deposit the grant resources into the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594.”

Section 4. That the City Manager is authorized to enter into a Local Public Agency agreement with ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project.

Section 5. That the City Manager is authorized to do all things necessary to cooperate with the Director of ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project.

Section 6. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the terms of the grants and Sections 1 through 5.

Section 7. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: _____, 2026

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

April 13, 2026

To: Members of the Budget, Finance & Governance Committee

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

202601352

Subject: Ordinance – DOTE: ODOT HSIP Systemic Safety Grant for Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (B Version)

Attached is an Ordinance captioned:

ESTABLISHING new capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594,” to provide resources for improving pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a grant of up to \$670,230 from the Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) Highway Safety Improvement Program (ALN 20.272) to the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594”; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594”; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to enter into a Local Public Agency agreement with ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to do all things necessary to cooperate with the Director of ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project.

The B Version of this Ordinance represents an adjustment in the grant award from \$609,300 to \$670,230, which is an increase in the amount of \$60,930. The B Version of this Ordinance also includes an adjustment in matching resources required for the grant from \$67,700 to \$74,470, which represents an increase in the amount of \$6,770.

Approval of this Ordinance authorizes the following:

1. The establishment of capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594,” to provide resources for improving pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods.
2. The City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$670,230 from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).

3. The Director of Finance to deposit resources into capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594”.

On March 12, 2025, the City Council passed Ordinance No. 52-2025, which authorized the City Manager to apply for funding from multiple HSIP grants awarded by ODOT, with any awarded funds to be used to ensure the timely completion of various high-priority safety projects identified by the Department of Transportation and Engineering. ODOT has awarded the City funding of up to \$670,230 to improve pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by the City Council.

This grant requires matching resources of up to \$74,470, which will be provided from various existing capital improvement program project accounts. There are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with this grant.

Implementing pedestrian safety measures 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 127-137 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The Administration recommends passage of this Ordinance.

cc: Andrew Dudas, Budget Director
Steve Webb, Finance Director



Attachment

ESTABLISHING new capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594,” to provide resources for improving pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a grant of up to \$670,230 from the Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) Highway Safety Improvement Program (ALN 20.272) to the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594”; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into the newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594”; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to enter into a Local Public Agency agreement with ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to do all things necessary to cooperate with the Director of ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project.

WHEREAS, grants are available from the Ohio Department of Transportation’s (“ODOT”) Highway Safety Improvement Program (“HSIP”) to support projects that enhance roadway and pedestrian safety; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2025, Council passed Ordinance No. 52-2025, which authorized the City Manager to apply for funding from multiple HSIP grants awarded by ODOT, with any awarded funds to be used to ensure the timely completion of various high-priority safety projects identified by the Department of Transportation and Engineering; and

WHEREAS, ODOT has awarded the City funding of up to \$670,230 to improve pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by Council; and

WHEREAS, acceptance of this grant requires matching resources of up to \$74,470, which will be provided from various existing capital improvement program project accounts; and

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

WHEREAS, implementing pedestrian safety measures 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 127-137 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. 980x232x262327, “Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 PID 124594,” to

provide resources for improving pedestrian safety along Duck Creek Road from Crane Avenue to Dana Avenue, located on the boundary of the Evanston and Hyde Park neighborhoods.

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Section 5. That the City Manager is authorized to do all things necessary to cooperate with the Director of ODOT to complete the Duck Creek Sidewalk Phase 2 (PID 124594) project.

Section 6. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the terms of the grants and Sections 1 through 5.

Section 7. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: _____, 2026

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk



202601206

Seth Walsh
Councilmember

Budget Priorities for FY27 Recommended Budget *Councilmember Seth Walsh*

This is the fourth budget I have considered as a member of Cincinnati City Council, and, no doubt the most challenging so far. In the face of an ever-changing federal and state landscape and the uncertain economic waters ahead, this Council and Mayor must make hard, thoughtful decisions to secure our city's future.

This does not mean that we can or should cut our way to prosperity. We can and should ensure that today's obligations are met while still protecting tomorrow's stability. It is critical to balance continued investment in what already makes our city great while also laying a strong foundation for the years to come.

We must be honest about our financial situation and stretch the dollars we have as far as we can. We cannot continue to start the year talking about deficits and cuts and end it with large surpluses that go mostly into filling reserves due to our conservative revenue projections. The needs are too great, and the moment is too important. This is not the way to a brighter future.

This is a defining moment for Cincinnati. The decisions we make pave the way for the growth and vibrancy we all want to see in the decades to come. We cannot shrink inward; we must lead with vision and invest with purpose. That is why in FY27, my budget priorities are as follows:

Safety and Basic Services

Public safety and basic services are the foundation of a great city. Excellence in basic city functions has an outsized positive impact on building a city where people choose to live, work, raise families, and grow their businesses. In FY27, we must continue to invest to ensure our neighborhoods are safe and clean:

Public Safety:

1. Increase the authorized strength of the Cincinnati Fire Department and invest appropriately to reach the necessary table of organization to reflect current staffing needs and significantly lower the mandatory overtime required of our firefighters.
2. Prioritize recruitment and retention of police officers, including lateral classes, to get the Cincinnati Police Department to full staffing.
3. Prioritize the deferred maintenance requests of our police and fire departments and utilize our bonding capacity to make necessary equipment and fleet replacements and facility upgrades.
4. Fund a hood and ANSUL system appropriate for a gas oven in Fire Station 50.
5. Fund the CPD Wellness Unit and CFD cancer screenings.
6. Allocate funds towards improving the design and equipment of UC Hospital's INO procedure room doubling the number of people that can receive this lung cancer treatment.
7. Restore funding to the violence prevention work of Whitney/Strong and Women Helping Women.

8. Invest in the Cincinnati Children's Hospital's vision voucher program.

Basic Services:

1. Prioritize the funding necessary to continue improving our snow and pothole response.
2. Repair all city-owned sidewalks.
3. Fund a second round of the residential sidewalk repair program.
4. Prioritize repair of city streets using Cincinnati Southern Railroad funding.

Internal City Investments:

1. No budget cuts to personnel, outside of vacancy savings
2. Ensure any budget cuts have no negative impact on public safety, basic services, and development.
3. Continue to ensure that all leveraged support fund awards are made in the budget, and that all funding awards are completed in time to meet pre-determined deadlines for outside matching funds.
4. Continue to increase our funding contribution to the pension.
5. Support capacity to ensure a successful launch of the Office of Strategic Growth.

A Growing Cincinnati

We cannot simply cut our way to a brighter future; we must grow into it. Cities that are not growing are dying. In FY27 we should make strategic, bold investments to catalyze growth and development in all our neighborhoods and build the Cincinnati of tomorrow:

Neighborhood Economic Development:

1. Combine and dramatically increase funding for the Quick Strike Acquisition Fund and the Catalytic Housing and Project Gap Filling into the Housing and Economic Development Reserve Fund as established in the FY25 Closeout Budget process. Funding should then be used as part of the Cincinnati Future Fund administered by Cincinnati Development Fund.
2. Provide funding to the Northside Gateway and Town Hall Flats projects to complete the financing structure and allow these critical neighborhood development projects to proceed.
3. Support programs from the Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio including expanding and growing Building Futures to continue to grow and manage a strong, diverse workforce.
4. Provide capital support to Uptown Consortium.
5. Maintain CDC operating support, with priority to invest in and grow smaller or emerging CDCs.
6. Continue to collaborate with Metro on development of BRT and create an economic development strategy with Metro and other development partners for the future BRT corridors.

Neighborhood Vitality:

1. Consolidate the current neighborhood activation and development fund catalog and coordinate funding with CDF to amplify the efforts of the Cincinnati's Future Fund and catalyze vibrancy and growth in our neighborhoods.
2. Maintain and grow NSP and NBDIP funding.
3. Reserve money to upgrade City Hall into a destination for the city once again.
4. Invest in preservation of pre-existing affordable housing in neighborhoods through CDCs.

Vibrant Neighborhoods

Cincinnati is an incredible city due in large part to the work of our small businesses, arts and culture organizations, and major events. They are economic engines, reputation builders, and together create the

soul of our city. FY27 is the year to reinforce the human impact these organizations have, as well as the potential job creation and revenue generation that will seed our next decade of success:

Small Business Support:

1. Uncap any funding application for small business support.
2. Restore CincyTech, Cintrifuse, and REDI to FY25 levels and fund the African American Chamber of Commerce, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Represent Cincy, and MORTAR to support small and startup business growth and expansion in Cincinnati.
3. Eliminate or offset fees for small businesses operating streeteries in the urban core.

Youth Employment and Engagement:

1. Invest in Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Cincinnati to support their GameChangers school-based mentoring program.
2. Invest in ArtWorks career pathways work.
3. Invest in the work of the Boys and Girls Club, particularly the building remodel and creation of the new Teen Center in Avondale.
4. Re-establish the Citizens' Committee on Youth.

Arts, Culture and Major Events:

1. Maintain capital and operating support of the arts and arts organizations.
2. Adjust the Playhouse in the Park lease to eliminate rent charges.
3. Invest in the necessary capital upgrades of city-owned facilities leased to not-for-profit organizations including the Cincinnati Museum Center, Music Hall, and Playhouse in the Park.
4. Maintain increased capital maintenance support for the Cincinnati Art Museum from FY26.
5. Invest in the Cincinnati Ballet's Mayerson Community Partnerships program.
6. Continue investing in Film Cincinnati at the previous level.
7. Continue investing in Visit Cincy at previous level.
8. Provide necessary support to BLINK.
9. Continue to support Asianati at previous levels.

Major Events and Civic Icons:

1. Continue investing in the Cincinnati Sports Commission at previous level.
2. Fund a Cincinnati Sports Commission study to examine our current sports facilities and what new facilities or upgrades are needed to attract major sporting events.
3. Provide ongoing capital support for the Cincinnati Sports Commission to leverage to make necessary upgrades for the city to land major sporting events.
4. Invest in an engineering study for the Purple People Bridge with Tri-State Trails to help ensure a sustainable future for a critical, iconic piece of pedestrian infrastructure in our urban core.
5. Provide \$1,350,000 in capital funding to Findlay Market for their Findlay Forward projects.
6. Provide \$8,000,000 to the Farmer Music Center as stated in the resolution passed by Council.
7. Invest \$1,000,000 in the acquisition of the parking lot adjacent to the Shakespeare Company to help facilitate their theater expansion project.
8. Invest to commission a permanent mural on the Brighton Approach Bridge celebrating Over-The-Rhine and the West End to transform this new infrastructure into a civic icon.
9. Invest to transform the west-facing retaining walls of the subway on I-75 into a rotating street art corridor to prevent graffiti and showcase local artists on a rolling basis.



202601207

Scotty Johnson
Councilmember

Councilmember Scotty Johnson - BUDGET PRIORITIES
FY 2026-2027

EQUITY & INCLUSION

African American Chamber of Greater Cincinnati	\$400,000
Urban League of Greater Southwest Ohio	\$350,000
Hispanic Chamber, Cincinnati-USA	\$200,000
(Lev. Support) Women Helping Women	\$100,000
(Lev. Support) Represent Cincy	\$250,000

CAPITAL

Boys and Girls Club	\$350,000
(Operating) Lighthouse & Youth Services	\$150,000
Artsville	\$250,000
(Operating) Young to Work	\$1,000,000

LEVERAGED SUPPORT

LADD	\$50,000
MORTAR (Economic Development)	\$100,000
(Operating) Mobile Food Market	\$250,000
(Operating) Advance Peace	\$350,000
City Gospel Mission	\$250,000
(Operating) Opportunity Dashboard	\$25,000
Cincinnati Music Festival	\$50,000
(Operating) Increase NSP Funds	\$12,500
Center For Addiction Treatment	\$150,000
Keep Cincinnati Beautiful	\$250,000



Meeka D. Owens
Cincinnati City Councilmember

COMMUNICATION

Councilmember Meeka D. Owens Budget Priorities for FY2027

As the City Administration prepares the FY2027 Budget Update, it should aim for an equitable allocation of resources that meets community needs, ensuring that funds allocated are spent transparently with accountability, and move the City of Cincinnati further toward addressing the climate crisis through green investments. I submit the following policy guidelines and priorities, which focus broadly on the Council’s top priorities and the responses that were presented in the City of Cincinnati Resident Survey provided by ETC Institute.

PUBLIC SAFETY

60.7% of FY26 operating dollars were spent on CPD and CFD, reflecting the priority that this council has on public safety. **Over the course of 2025, which spanned part of FY25 and FY26 we saw a 3.1% reduction in part one crime and an 18.1% reduction in shooting incidents compared to the year prior.** I ask that the administration take the following recommendations into consideration as we continue to ensure the strength of the men and women of CPD and CFD:

- Investments should be made to ensure that recruiting classes are properly funded, and that there are attractive salary ranges both for incoming cadets and lateral recruits. These investments should reflect the goal of achieving a full complement of both officers and firefighters.
 - An additional consideration should be to continue to support the understudy program to support younger residents to have easier access to city service.
- To address the issue that has been labeled the “**revolving door of justice**”, I ask that there be funding provided for CPD and all other relevant departments to receive training on how to request no bond request for violent and repeat offenders.
- To further address the public health crisis of gun violence and public safety as a whole, additional funding should be supplied to prevention efforts, including but not limited to, the **Victims Liaison Unit, the Violence Reduction Team, members of the Hope and Shield Network, and other teams** that provided resources and education to those at risk of experiencing gun violence and those who are victims of gun violence.
 - Additionally, programs that ensure looking towards preventative efforts that aim to provide safer and stronger communication with the children in our city. This

means continuing and expanding programs with external partners of CPD, CFD and others, like DVERT, that primarily serve our young populations.

- There should be a priority placed on ensuring all turnout gear for the Fire Department are within their life cycle and are capable of being replaced in a timely manner. Under federal standards set in NFPA, there are requirements that must be met through this turnout gear. So, we must create a stronger strategy to ensure that members of CFD are in properly **fitted turnout gear**, and we are in compliance with NFPA.
- To address staffing issues within our public safety departments, I ask that through this budget process there be a document provided to the Council **outlining the costs of CFD and CPD staffing during training academies**. Additionally, that there be a concerted investment to address **outdated staffing tables** within both departments. It has been brought to my office's attention that we might have issues with staffing pockets of the city with proper resources due to needs at the training academies. We need to understand the plan for ensure proper service delivery while providing the top education to our police and fire cadets.
- Our local businesses have been affected by the ebbs and flows in public safety more than just about anyone. It affects their bottom lines, their staff's morale, and the health of their communities. Therefore, I ask that the city administration take steps to **assist local businesses with getting enrolled in the City's FUSUS program** to expand the local camera network. We should look to expand enrollment in the FUSUS program by 1,000 cameras during FY27. A possible source should be the \$1m earmark from Congressman Landsman.
- Additionally, there must be investments in technologies that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Cincinnati Police and Fire Departments. This includes expanding the Drone Program, improving technologies within public safety fleet, and other identified areas.

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

During 2025, the City of Cincinnati saw a **positive net change in total housing units coming to the total of 1,280 units**. The City of Cincinnati also continued their investments into the Affordable Housing Leveraged Fund which sees a **leverage capacity of 13:1**. These units are ensured to bring opportunities to those who are 60-80% AMI or lower. But there is more work to be done in building up and maintaining our housing stock and ensuring the strengthen of our 52 neighborhoods, so I ask the administration to consider the following recommendations:

- Investments to the **Affordable Housing Leverage Fund** should be continued to ensure the creation of units that are accessible to those **at and below 60-80% AMI** within the City of Cincinnati.
- **Continue and expand funding for the Access to Counsel ecosystem**. Since the passage of the FY26/27 budget the City of Cincinnati has been made aware through a report

completed by STOUT that there is a **\$2.50-\$4.30 for every dollar** that is invested into this ecosystem.

- To simply have enough rental assistance to accommodate the capacity that the ecosystem currently can hold would require a \$1.7m investment. **Additionally, there are program services and legal representation costs associated with the program, meaning an investment of nearly \$2.5m** would be needed for all partners to function at full capacity without inflicting rental assistance. I ask that this be a consideration when considering investment in Access to Counsel.
- While the creation of new housing units is needed, the existing housing stock within the City of Cincinnati should not be forgotten. Therefore, I ask that investments be made to continue and expand the capacity of the city's **HARBOR program**. And to work towards expanding and enshrining further resources to protect and improve the quality of our afford and market rate housing stock through the creation of a **rental improvement fund**.
- Ensure that through investments made into the community that **the priorities of the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan** are properly reflected. This includes investments to reduce the effects of the urban heat island, increase air quality, increase tree canopy, reduce impervious surfaces, and more. Investments now save jurisdictions on public health costs in the long run.
- Incentives packages should be prioritized for economic development projects that are **revenue producing for the city**. This included reducing barrier to development for both large and small firms that helped to increase the populations and other revenues within Cincinnati. **Examples would be projects that could increase the city's annual admissions (ticket) tax revenue or additional housing units to increase the earning tax revenues.**
- The power of grassroots organizations in our communities cannot be overstated, and the support that the city provides makes these organizations and their outcomes stronger. Therefore, I ask that we continue that the following grant programs receive continued support: **Safe and Clean, Boots on the Ground, Seeds of Change, and others.**

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND HUMAN SERVICES

There are over **400 enterprises registered as certified vendors with the City of Cincinnati, ranging from minority owned to woman owned and more.** These businesses assist the city with ensuring stronger economic opportunities for those in our community who haven't seen economic support in the past. Additionally, there are dozens of human services organizations who support and uplift residents in some of their darkest time, most of the funded through our Human Service Fund and Leveraged Support. Therefore, I ask that the administration consider the following:

- In maintaining this Council's **good government initiatives**, organizations who are seeking operating funding from Leveraged Support who did not go through the

application process should not be recommended for funding or allocated funds. Unless, actively under contract with the city for other purposes.

- Through Leveraged Support, there should be a concerted effort to understand the **leveraging capacity of city dollars over previous awards during the application process**. City dollars should not be a stop gap for organizations but rather a measure for organizations to grow beyond that funding. There should be a priority placed onto organizations that have a **proven track record** of leveraging city funds to acquire funding from other sources.
- Additionally, there should be a focus on investments from Leveraged Support that go upstream and focus on prevention. This would include programs that are built from city programs like those supported through Women Helping Women.
- Maintain and expand funding for the Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program (NBDIP) and place an importance on **placemaking and safety measures**.
- Enshrine investments in programs and organizations who can aid in achieving the goals of the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan, **specifically, the goal of creating 4,000 green jobs by the end of the decade**.
- In an effort to better support our small business across the city, I ask that we continue, and if possible, increase, the **Commercial Tenant Improvement Program (CTIP)**, the Pop-Up Shop Program (OurShop) and the MicroCity Loan Program to support our local businesses. Additionally, support investments for FlyWheel as they search for innovative solutions to many of the city's problems.

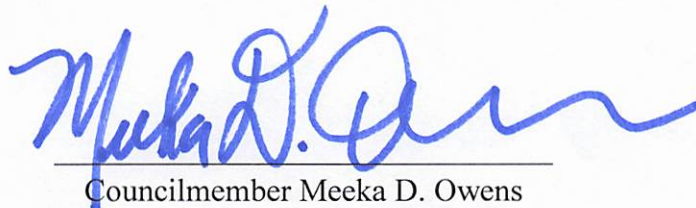
SERVICE DELIVERY AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

In 2025, the City of Cincinnati had **over 146,000 requests for service, with 65% of those being closed by their due date**. This mark has regressed from previous years and needs to be improved as part of the FY27 budget. The projected 5.1% cut to the operating budget is not easy to navigate and I believe that there are additional revenue sources that could be considered as we work to address that gap. Additionally, in January of 2024, an Internal Audit was complete on the city's ability to **purchase and replace vehicles**. It was discovered that of the **1,495 vehicles** owned by the city, **685 of these were out-of-lifecycle (45.8%)**. It was projected that there would need to be an investment of **over \$82m to address those 685 vehicles**, fleet will remain a capital issue and reduce our service delivery capacity if we cannot address the issue. Therefore, I ask the administration to consider the following recommendations related to service delivery and fiscal sustainability:

- I ask that the administration look at all fees, permits, and registries to understand sites of additional revenues to reduce the effect of present and future operating deficits.
- **As discussed during the FY25 carryover process, I would ask that the percentages of our reserves be returned to 16.7% and to be calculated off of expenditures rather**

than revenues. These changes would result in more dollars to be kept out of reserves and to be spent on service delivery.

- There should be focus placed reducing the issues of out-of-lifecycle fleet, as referenced in the 2024 Internal Audit. There should be a larger investment made during FY27 and the creation of a plan, with funding, that works to reduce the out-of-life cycle fleet below 10%. Additionally, looking at possible present and future state and federal incentives that could work to address the issue of public safety fleet.
- I ask that the FY27 operating and capital budget be balanced and not project any deficit spending.
- I ask that there be proper resources provided to the Office of Grant Administration to properly apply for state and federal grants to assist the City of Cincinnati in accomplishing outcomes for residents.
- I ask that there be a concerted effort **on improving processes to execute the Cincy on Track plan** and that those dollars are not only encumbered but are spent in a timely and effective way.
- Investments or **realignments in FTEs should reflect the services that residents want to see**, as mentioned in the resident's survey completed in 2025.
- City Administration should consider investments in software's that improve productivity and efficiency in government. There should also be an effort placed into ensuring that the City of Cincinnati **by the end of FY27 has a responsible Artificial Intelligence policy**. Therefore, I request that the administration provide funding to ensure that City employees have the option to use the premium version of Microsoft CoPilot and other assistive AI programs.
- To provide stronger access to summertime childcare and options for young people, I ask that the administration look to **provide free or subsidize summer camp programing through CRC to 125 families during the summer of 2027**.
 - *The focus of these free or subsidized spots should for families who don't have access to vouchers, who are **at or below 60-80% AMI**, and are in communities with higher levels of gun violence.*



Councilmember Meeka D. Owens

4/21/2026

AD

Budget and Finance



Mark Jeffreys
Councilmember

202601209

April 6th, 2026

MEMORANDUM

Budget Policy Direction to City Administration for Recommended FY2027 Budget

Overall budget priority: Efficiency. The City Manager has asked each department to identify potential cuts of 5.1% of their budget and the impact of those cuts. We should all challenge ourselves to deliver efficiencies without any reduction in services. NYC has done that same exercise and identified efficiencies worth 1.5% of their budget (our deficit is ~1.7% of our budget). If other cities can do it then we can too. We can and should start there to ensure our government is the most efficient possible.

Operating Budget Priorities

Recurring Operating Budget Priorities:

- Continued investment and implementation of ACT for Cincy:
 - Necessary recruit classes to achieve authorized strength for police & fire
 - Safe and Clean Fund
 - Boots on the Ground Fund
 - Continue funding Human Services with 1.5% of the city's General Fund
 - Alternative Response Program
- Fund the city's pension contribution at 19.25%.
- Direct 45% of the cannabis revenue toward lead abatement programs that protect children under six from lead poisoning—the most vulnerable to irreversible health effects, allocate 10% towards expunging marijuana citation records & 45% funding for CCY via restricted fund that can generate additional philanthropic investments.
- Invest in making Keep Cincinnati Beautiful's Bulk Item Drop off year-round, which has reduced illegal dumping at hot spots by 35%.
- Allocate \$150K to Cintrifuse, \$150K to Cincytech, and \$100K to MORTAR.

Fiscal Year 2027 Operating Budget Priorities:

- Allocate \$210K to fund a joint program with City Gospel Mission and Keep Cincinnati Beautiful for a Neighborhood Job Van initiative– to provide those panhandling with a job cleaning up litter in our city neighborhoods outside Downtown & OTR.
- Continue to invest \$150K Red Bike’s “Strengthen and Sustain” plan (as agreed to in Resolution #202500235).
- Allocate \$88K to expand Traffic Aide Worker Crew to help ongoing efforts to repair/replace parking infrastructure in a timely manner and generate additional revenue.

Capital Budget Priorities

Recurring Capital Budget Priorities:

- Cincy on Track
 - Fund Street Rehabilitation to the maximum possible with capacity constraints internally and with contractors (~\$30M-\$35M) to ensure we pave additional lane miles and advance the Complete Streets policy including pedestrian safety elements.
 - Fund new fire stations for outdated facilities followed by other capital project priorities e.g. Parks, Rec, Health Centers, etc.
- Invest in City Fleet replacements .
- Invest in community development through the Quick Strike Acquisition Fund.

Fiscal Year 2027 Capital Budget Priorities:

- \$191K for acquisition of land for Wasson Way Connection from Ohio River Trail to Otto Armleder Memorial Park and a portion of land in South Cumminsville, an important connection to help complete the CROWN.
- **TIF Allocation:**
 - Findlay Market - \$1.3M for a City of Cincinnati-owned asset as part of 3-year commitment.
 - Over-the-Rhine Museum: Restoration and building improvements made to the property they purchased at 3 West McMicken Avenue (\$250K).
 - Artsville: \$250K in improvements made to the facility in Madisonville (city-owned asset).

Opportunities for Revenue and Cost Recovery:

Vacant Building Registry:

- Continue to expand the Building Inspector Training Academy and fund inspectors for enforcement of the Vacant Building Registry - fees are projected to cover 100%+ funding needed in Year 1 of the program and subsequent years.

Optimize Parking Revenue:

- Fund parking footprint study to determine opportunities to expand revenue via expanding Paid Parking Zones while effectively managing heavily trafficked areas.
- Increase parking revenues via new enforcement officers and enforcement outside of the urban basin.

Implement Fees for Certain Services:

- “You break it, you pay for it” Repair Responsibility—in partnership with City Council and CPD, recovering costs to public infrastructure damaged from reckless drivers’ insurance company. Negligent and reckless behavior that harms public infrastructure, such as streetlights, railings, and other city property, costs the city millions and should not be a cost the city has to bear. Other cities have this type of policy in place.
- Charge higher fees for non-city residents for certain city services: (e.g. parks/rec rentals, summer camps, golf fees and other public use fees) similar to other entities that charge out-of-city users a higher rate. For instance, Great Parks of Hamilton County charges higher rates for non-Hamilton County residents.

Futures Commission Recommendations:

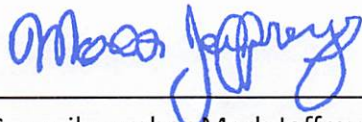
- Cincinnati Parks/Cincinnati Recreation Commission: Have the Cincinnati Parks Department take over management of much of 954 acres of greenspace currently overseen by CRC, which they indicated would yield an estimated \$25M in savings over ten years.
- Cincinnati Parks/Great Parks: As recommended in the Futures Commission and put forward in a motion last session, Cincinnati Parks should explore a partnership with Great Parks of Hamilton County to share management of Mt. Airy Forest, French Park and other parks/trails, which could save the city an estimated \$9.5M over ten years.

Get Reimbursed from the State of Ohio for Doing Work They do for Other Municipalities:

- Responding to crashes & investigating them on interstates: Pursue reimbursement from Ohio Highway Patrol for responding to & investigating crashes as well as traffic enforcement on Interstates within the city limits. OHHP handles these functions in rural

and suburban jurisdictions throughout the state. This represents millions of \$ to the City of Cincinnati.

- Reimbursement for snow removal: Pursue reimbursement from ODOT for snow removal on State Routes that run through the City of Cincinnati. ODOT clears snow and ice on State Routes in rural and suburban communities at no cost. It's not fair that Cincinnati has to pay for it.
- More reimbursement for litter clean up on state routes: Advocate for ODOT to reimburse the City of Cincinnati for litter clean-up on State Routes more than once per year. Currently, only annual reimbursement is provided on some routes, despite ongoing litter management needs on State Routes like Route 50. Request reimbursement 4x per year which will help ensure the State Routes are cleaned. ODOT does litter removal on state routes in other parts of the state. It's only fair that this cost is covered.



Councilmember Mark Jeffreys

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Evan Nolan
Councilmember

04/02/2026

Councilmember Evan Nolan Budget Priorities for FY27 Recommended Budget Update

To maintain and enhance our city's path to more equitable and sustainable growth, we must further invest in our neighborhoods and our neighbors, specifically our youth, by providing the necessary resources for proper workforce and workplace development. By growing our tax base and expanding economic opportunities, we can empower our residents and ensure long-term, sustained growth for all of Cincinnati. The following considerations should be top priorities for the FY27 City Budget Update:

Capital Budget:

- An expedited process for more effective deployment of **Cincy on Track** funds.
- Assessing and restructuring the existing housing and economic development tools and funding sources, including those listed below, into a more consolidated and flexible structure under management of the City's new Office of Strategic Growth and in partnership with Cincinnati Development Fund:
 - o Tax Increment Financing Districts (TIF Districts)
 - o Voluntary Tax Incentive Contribution Agreement Program (VTICA)
 - o Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program (NBDIP)
 - o Neighborhood Business District Support Fund
 - o Neighborhood Catalytic Capital Improvement Program (NCCIP)
 - o Catalytic Neighborhood Futures Fund
 - o Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)
 - o "Quick Strike" Acquisition & Project Funding
 - o Affordable Housing Leverage Fund
- Such restructured tools and funding should create more efficient access and greater availability to our development partners, including community development corporations and other neighborhood organizations, to activate economic development and new housing in neighborhoods across the city in support of the following areas:
 - o Neighborhood Business Districts
 - o Affordable Housing, specifically the Affordable Housing Leverage Fund
 - o Preserving and creating more homeownership and closing the home ownership gap

- Low-income areas
- Where development is not naturally occurring without public subsidy
- Where there are no TIF Districts or VTICA funds or
- Where TIF Districts or VTICAs are not producing sufficient revenue
- Along major transit corridors
- Across the life cycle of a development project from site acquisition and pre-development costs through gap financing, completed construction, and ongoing stabilization
- Nonprofit capital expenditures
- Projects with revenue-enhancing returns, such as the Farmer's Music Center project

Operating Budget:

- Funding to ensure adequate staffing and proper resources for the necessary programs in the **Office of Strategic Growth**.
- Alignment of appropriate resources to fully fund the **Department of Opportunity & Resident Services**.
- Necessary funding for the **Department of City Planning and Engagement** to sustainably fund the neighborhood planning cycle.
- Continued implementation of competitive pay schedules in the **Law Department** to retain and attract talent.
- Providing initial investment to launch the Vacant Building Registry in the **Department of Buildings and Inspections**.
- Continued and expanded implementation of **Cincinnati Financial Freedom Blueprint** recommendations, such as the Child Savings Accounts program and Access to Counsel.



Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney
Vice Mayor

202601227

April 2, 2026

Memo for Proposed Budget Priorities for FY '27

WE recommend the following budget priorities that will allow our youth and adults to not only survive, but thrive. The attached list includes transformative initiatives for youth, workforce development for youth and adults, pathways to eliminate gun violence, repairing of damage from past systemic discrimination, increasing homeownership and wealth building, resources for the Department of Opportunity and Resident Services (DOORS), support for events that build a sense of community and cohesion across our city, and resources to catalyze development and city growth. *See Attachment A.*

Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney

**BUDGET REQUESTS
FY 2027**

Priority	Organization	Amount requested	C/O*	Purpose
Youth				
	Cincinnati Youth Employment	\$ 1,000,000.00	O	Phase 1 of recreating CCY (rebranded as <i>Cincinnati</i> Committee on Youth): Increase Cincinnati's capacity to include year-round jobs for youth as well as workshops on skill building, financial literacy, post-high school planning, conflict resolution, healthy habits, etc. <i>Citizens</i> Committee on Youth ran for 50 years and ended in 2007. In addition to additional funding for youth jobs, City will work with the business community to secure youth jobs outside of City Hall. Phase 2 in the rebirth of CCY will be to add mentorships through "We Mentor Cincy (led by the Cincinnati Youth Collaborative), the Divine 9, and others.
	Boys and Girls Club	\$ 350,000.00	C	Renovate and Create Teen Center Avondale
	Youth Sports Commission	TBD	O	An over-arching commission with voluntary membership that would train coaches and provide education for families about de-escalation, conflict resolution, code of conduct; provide supplemental funds for sports gear; help w/ finding and funding playing fields
	KidFuture CPS (Formerly Activities BEYOND THE CLASSROOM/ABC)	\$ 400,000.00	O	CPS Afterschol programming. Funds needed for : search platform for parents and youth to find programs; expansion of grantwritng capacity, marketing for corporate funding
	Wesley Chapel Mission (Janine Shelborne)	\$ 574,580.00	O	Personnel for youth programming: 4 f/directors, 9 p/t teachers, 3 f/t coordinators to service and Discovery Trips to venues such as the Zoo, Indianapolis Children's Museum, Cincinnati Children's Museum, and Kings Island.
	Expansion of "Rec at Night" to afterschool rec pilot program at Hughes High School	\$ 500,000.00	O	Joint project with City Council and CPS
	Lighthouse Youth Services	\$ 150,000.00	O	Outreach/ Prevention team, Sheakley Center
	Women Helping Women	\$ 100,000.00	O	Violence Prevention Education in 15 schools; 2024-25: Served 986 students
Workforce Development				
	Hispanic Chamber	\$ 200,000.00	O	Small Business suport

**BUDGET REQUESTS
FY 2027**

Priority	Organization	Amount requested	C/O*	Purpose
	MidWest Con	\$ 100,000.00		Conference and connectors with AI workforce development strategies
	Small Business Fund		O	Help small businesses to curvive and thrive with services similar to the GROW AVONDALE Program developed by LISC in October 2025.
	Npower Tech Training	\$ 99,000.00	O	Partner w/ Microsoft, Google & other tech companies; free training & certification for High School grads; result: high-paying jobs in tech field. Started in NY, spread to Texas and elsewhere; currently officew in Dayton, OH. Want to open office in Cincinncati.
	CincyTech	\$ 250,000.00	C	State matches city's investmant to create more tech jobs.
	MORTAR	\$ 50,000.00	O	"Ongoing Excellence": Job readiness, entrepreneurship; Ecoomic Dev.
	Represent513 (for small businesses in OTR)	\$ 250,000.00	O	Jasmine Coaston's Assistance for OTR Small Businesses. Subject Matter Expert (SME) coaching for small businesses (NOTE: Grants of up to \$10K go to businesses from capital accts)
	Black Art Speaks	\$ 150,000.00		Jobs for artists
	Expungement Clinics	\$ 400,000.00	O	Urban League (\$300,000); City w/ OJPC, Office of Re-Entry, Ham. Co. Library (\$100,000)
	Building Futures	\$ 300,000.00	O	Urban League and Building Trades' 12-week appreticeship program funding for two additional co-horts of 25 individuals per class to lead to good-paying union jobs in the trades
	City Gospel Mission	\$ 250,000.00	C	Van for Workers Who are Living on the Streets. Keep Cincinncati Beautiful and City Gospel Mission partner to pick up unhoused people, give them public services-type work, and pay them.
Eliminating Gun Violence				
	CincySafe Community Violence Intervention Program	\$ 375,000.00		Cincinncati-based program modeled on Advance Peace, a proven, data-driven model that has significantly reduced gun violence in neighborhoods across the country for more than 10 years.

**BUDGET REQUESTS
FY 2027**

Priority	Organization	Amount requested	C/O*	Purpose
	Boots on the Ground	\$ 500,000.00	O	Fund for start-up businesses to address violence and other community needs for a maximum amount of \$25,000 per group. The Greater Cincinnati Foundation raises additional funds for BOTG and assists small organizations in applying for non-profit status.
	Safe & Clean Fund	\$ 500,000.00	O	Fund for organizations that target blight and violence is managed by Keep Cincinnati Beautiful. There is no cap, but distributions tend to be \$70,000 or less.
	Whitney Strong	\$ 50,000.00	O	Stop the Bleed Program: crisis training, distribution of gunlocks, distribution of medical supplies, and other services.
Homeownership/Wealth Building				
	Cincinnati Real Estate Repairs Program (RERP) - home repairs, homeownership, residential and commercial purchasing help, delinquent property tax help	\$ 5,000,000.00	C	Home repairs, homeownership, residential and commercial purchasing help, delinquent property taxes (<i>HomeSafe Program reboot</i>), See Memo
Dept. of Opportunity and Resident Services (DOORS)				
	Mobile Market (Office of Opportun)	\$ 260,000.00	C	Model in Lexington partners w/ Kroger & a non-profit to go to various food deserts on the same schedule every week. Could add neighborhood farmer's markets in good weather.
	NSP increase: \$12,000/community council (increase from \$10K)	\$ 681,000.00	O	Insurance costs and programming costs have increased; many have started or are trying to start a youth council
	Invest in Neighborhoods	\$ 100,000.00	O	Personnel (2 hires to create staff of 3)
	Opportunity Dashboard for Office of Opportunity/DORS	\$ 25,000.00	O	
	Buy the Building, Vacant to Vibrant, Community Investment Trusts	TBD	C	Three recommended programs from VM Kearney's Office

**BUDGET REQUESTS
FY 2027**

Priority	Organization	Amount requested	C/O*	Purpose
Special Events				
	LADD	\$ 50,000.00	O	Disability Pride Month activities
	Cincinnati Music Festival	\$ 50,000.00	O	CMF has an annual economic impact of more than \$107 million. 85% of attendees are tourists. Additional revenue would provide capacity for more A-List artists to increase attendance, and therefore, revenue for the City.
	Unity Fund	\$ 100,000.00	O	Community Building/Neighborhood events by small groups and/or community councils
Capital Projects				
	8K for Town Hall Flats (Westwood)	\$ 2,500,000.00	C	
	Imperial Theatre	\$ 500,000.00		Development of central structure to start growth and development of Mohawk neighborhood
	ArtsVille	\$ 250,000.00	C	Renovations
	Playhouse in the Park	\$ 380,000.00	C	\$200K for new roof and HVAC for Shelterhouse Theatre; \$180K for Production Facility Building on Gilbert Avenue (HVAC & parking lot paving)
	Pig Works	\$ 1,000,000.00	C	For their Campus in Walnut Hills; New headquarters for Flying Pig Marathon, scholarships, other races and programs
	Buy the Building, Vacant to Vibrant, Community Investment Trusts	TBD	C	Three recommended programs from VM Kearney's Office
Other Requests				
	Center for Addiction Treatment (CAT HOUse)	\$ 125,000.00	O	Operating funds needed.
*C/O = Capital or Operating Funds				



Ryan James
Councilmember

Helping People Get Ahead

I stepped into this role with a strong call to action: to increase affordability for our cost-burdened residents so they can not only survive; they can thrive. This past year Cincinnati has experienced a renaissance in population growth, and sustaining this expansion must happen hand in hand with the residents who make this city what it is. To do this, we have to foster a landscape where culture, safety, and success can be felt from the East Side to the West End. That work begins with creative solutions to improve the everyday realities facing our residents; and today, too many families are being asked to do too much with too little, making that goal hard to reach.

Across our city, the cost of housing continues to rise faster than income, leaving working families increasingly vulnerable to displacement and financial instability. Preventable evictions, aging homes in need of repair, and limited pathways to homeownership are placing long-term security out of reach for too many. Just as critically, many residents feel disconnected from one another and from the systems meant to serve them. A lack of shared community spaces, uneven investment across neighborhoods, and persistent trust gaps have contributed to a sense that growth is happening without broad inclusion. Longtime residents worry about being left behind or pushed out, while too many voices remain unheard in the decisions shaping their communities.

This budget proposal is grounded in a clear set of priorities: keeping families in their homes, expanding access to economic opportunities, and fostering a deeper sense of belonging across every neighborhood. By addressing these challenges with targeted, proactive investments, we can build a Cincinnati where stability, opportunity, and community are not privileges for some, but guaranteed.

Operating Budget Priorities

Public Safety and Prevention (Top Priority)

As we head into the summer months, we see predictable increases in public safety needs across our city. This budget must reflect that reality by ensuring we are fully prepared to respond, prevent, and protect our communities.

- Do not cut the budgets of police and fire services, and ensure they remain fully resourced to meet increased seasonal demand
- Invest in crime prevention strategies that address root causes and reduce violence before it happens
- Increase investment in police and fire compensation to remain competitive and keep pace with inflation
- Expand support for youth engagement and intervention programs
- Strengthen coordination between public safety and community-based partners

Affordability and Cost of Living Relief

- Establish a \$1 million Affordability Fund to reduce cost-of-living burdens and safeguard support funds for residents when they need them most
- Offset city-induced fees and fines, including parking tickets
- Address rising energy and household costs

Expanding Access Through D.O.O.R.S.

- Expand the Department of Opportunities and Resident Services (DOORS)
- Fund a Care Coordination Team to identify resident needs and connect residents to services
- Build toward a system where one call connects residents to help

Workforce Development and Economic Mobility

- Increase investment in workforce development programs
- Strengthen partnerships with Cincinnati Works, ArtWorks, and the Boys and Girls Club Workforce Development Center
- Expand access to training, job placement, and career pathways

Supporting Small Businesses, Entrepreneurs, and Regional Growth

- Invest in the entrepreneurship ecosystem, including Represent Cincy, African American Chamber of Commerce, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, StartupCincy, and Cincy Tech
- Strengthen partnership with REDI Cincinnati to support job attraction and business growth
- Support catalytic events, including collaboration with the Cincinnati Sports Commission, Cincinnati Regional Chamber of Commerce, and Visit Cincy to drive tourism and economic activity
- Expand access to capital, technical assistance, and business support

Neighborhood and Community Activation

- Increase Neighborhood Support Funds from \$10,000 to \$12,000 annually
- Dedicate \$100,000 for neighborhood-based events
- Cap events at \$5,000 each and ensure access for neighborhood councils, churches, and small businesses
- Prioritize free, inclusive, and well-marketed community gatherings

Capital Budget Priorities

Long-term investments in infrastructure, facilities, and physical assets.

Public Safety Infrastructure

- Invest in modernizing fleet vehicles for police and fire to ensure reliable emergency response
- Invest in faster sidewalk repair and pothole filling

Affordable Housing and Strategic Growth

- Adequately fund the Department of Strategic Growth to accelerate affordable housing development
- Expand the economic development budget to support housing production, mixed-income development, and neighborhood revitalization
- Invest in projects that deliver long-term affordability and increase housing supply

Neighborhood and Community Infrastructure

- Invest in neighborhood business districts and local corridors
- Support development of more third spaces that foster connection and community without significant cost-barriers to entry
- Strengthen infrastructure that supports safe and connected neighborhoods



Anna Albi
Councilmember

2026 01232

April 2, 2026

Councilmember Anna Albi Budget Policy Motion for FY27 Budget

Cincinnati stands at a pivotal moment of opportunity and growth. As revitalization continues across our city, we are seeing momentum in our neighborhoods and business districts as well as national recognition for our parks, arts and cultural institutions. This moment presents a responsibility to care holistically for our communities and to ensure all residents thrive. Taking an equitable, data-informed, and human-centric approach to the budget allows us to focus on the fundamentals while shaping the kind of city Cincinnati will be for future generations.

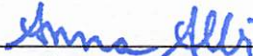
At the same time we are developing this budget, the City faces deep uncertainty and strong headwinds. We are being asked to do more with limited resources, while facing budget constraints, increased state and federal preemption, and broader economic and geopolitical fallout that continues to impact the cost of living for our communities. These challenges require us to be strategic in how we allocate resources, prioritize investments, and partner with organizations to deliver services effectively and efficiently. Our budget must reflect not only our ambitions for growth, but also our responsibility to care for the people who call Cincinnati home.

Operating:

- Increase funding for the ACT for Cincy violence reduction portfolio and action teams, including supporting community partners and initiatives aligned to the action teams.
- Maintain funding for the Police Department's Victim Assistance Liaison Unit and the Emergency Communication Center's Alternative Response to Crisis (ARC) and Community Responders teams.
- Maintain funding for the Boots on the Ground and Safe and Clean grant programs.
- Increase funding for the award-winning Rec @ Nite program to expand to two additional locations; and establish a pilot to provide Rec @ Nite programming as an onsite afterschool offering in collaboration with Cincinnati Public Schools.
- Maintain funding for Community Councils and Community Budget Requests (CBRs).
- Maintain funding for Career Pathways and Youth to Work (Y2W) and continue support for external workforce development programs.
- Establish an emergency immigration relief fund.
- Prioritize funding for community organizations providing emergency food access, homelessness prevention, youth support and gun violence prevention.

Capital:

- Maintain funding for the Affordable Housing Leveraged Fund through the Cincinnati Development Fund with emphasis on development projects aimed at 60 AMI and below.
- Streamline and simplify the process for community-led, catalytic developments to receive City funding.
- Increase the proportion of Cincy on Track funding directed towards road repair and repaving.
- Extend the residential sidewalk repair program to a new eligible neighborhood(s) and prioritize repairing City-owned sidewalks.
- Fund arts and cultural institutions, including exploring re-establishing an arts capital fund and fulfilling the City's commitments to the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Findlay Market, and City-owned cultural assets.
- Fund the installation of additional lights and cameras inside City-owned parks, playgrounds, and recreational areas.
- Maintain funding for pedestrian safety and traffic calming improvements.
- Deploy existing capital funding for minority-owned businesses through Represent Cincy.



Councilmember Anna Albi