

May 21, 2025

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

202501046

Subject: Emergency Ordinance – OES: EPA Solar for All Grant

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$10,000,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Solar for All grant program (ALN 66.959), as a subrecipient through Growth Opportunity Partners, to Environment and Sustainability Fund 436 to provide resources for accelerated, transformational deployment of equipment to facilitate the availability of solar energy in low-income neighborhoods; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant resources into Environment and Sustainability Fund revenue account no. 436x8543, Office of Environment and Sustainability project account no. 25EPASFA, "FY 2025 EPA Solar for All Grant."

This Emergency Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$10,000,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Solar for All grant program (ALN 66.959), as a subrecipient through Growth Opportunity Partners, to Environment and Sustainability Fund 436. These resources will provide for the accelerated, transformational deployment of solar energy in low-income neighborhoods. The City may utilize these grant resources for the construction of a solar array at the site of the former Center Hill Landfill in the Winton Hills neighborhood, but the City may pursue other projects with these resources.

Growth Opportunity Partners was the lead applicant for the grant and selected the City of Cincinnati as a subrecipient; however, no grant resources will be accepted without approval by the City Council. This grant does not require matching resources, and there are no FTE/full time equivalents associated with this grant.

Deploying solar energy investments for underserved communities is in accordance with the "Sustain" goal to "[b]ecome a healthier Cincinnati" and strategy to "[c]reate a healthy environment and reduce energy consumption" as described on pages 181-185 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept and appropriate grant funds to meet established project timelines.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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

Attachment

