

November 30, 2022

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager



202202121

Subject: **Ordinance – DOTE: Western Hills Viaduct Grants**

Attached is an Ordinance captioned:

**AUTHORIZING** the establishment of capital improvement program project account nos. 980x233x232372, “Western Hills Viaduct OKI STBG Grant 2021,” 980x233x232373, “Western Hills Viaduct TRAC Grant 2021,” 980x233x232374, “Western Hills Viaduct Federal Earmark 2022,” and 980x233x232375, “Western Hills Viaduct INFRA Grant 2022”; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate an Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Surface Transportation Block Grant (ALN 20.205) in an amount up to \$1,000,000 for the purpose of providing resources for the demolition and construction of the Western Hills Viaduct (the “Western Hills Viaduct Project”); **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a Transportation Review Advisory Council Grant (ALN 20.205) in an amount up to \$25,000,000 for the purpose of providing resources for the Western Hills Viaduct Project; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate an amount up to \$1,000,000 in federal funding earmarked in the Consolidation Appropriations Act of 2022 for Highway Infrastructure Programs (ALN 20.205) for the purpose of providing resources for the Western Hills Viaduct Project; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects grant (ALN 20.934) in an amount up to \$127,115,954 for the purpose of providing resources for the Western Hills Viaduct Project; **AUTHORIZING** the Finance Director to deposit a total sum of up to \$154,115,954 (the “Funds”) to the various newly established capital improvement program project accounts set forth in the attached Schedule of Appropriation; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to enter into any agreements necessary to accept the Funds.

This Ordinance does the following:

1. Establishes capital improvement program project account nos. 980x233x232372, “Western Hills Viaduct OKI STBG Grant 2022,” 980x233x232373, Western Hills Viaduct TRAC Grant 2021,” 980x233x232374, “Western Hills Viaduct Federal Earmark 2022,” and 980x233x232375, “Western Hills Viaduct INFRA Grant 2022”;
2. Authorizes the City Manager to accept and appropriate an Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana (OKI) Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) (ALN 20.205) in an amount up to \$1,000,000 for the purpose of providing resources for the Western Hills Viaduct Project;
3. Authorizes the City Manager to accept and appropriate a Transportation Review Advisory Council Grant (TRAC) (ALN 20.205) in an amount up to \$25,000,000 for the purpose of providing resources for the Western Hills Viaduct Project;
4. Authorizes the City Manager to accept and appropriate an amount up to \$1,000,000 in federal funding earmarked in the Consolidation Appropriations Act of 2022 for

Highway Infrastructure Programs (ALN 20.205) for the purpose of providing resources for the Western Hills Viaduct Project;

5. Authorizes the City Manager to accept and appropriate a Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (INFRA) grant (ALN 20.934) in an amount up to \$127,115,954 for the purpose of providing resources for the Western Hills Viaduct Project;
6. Authorizes the Finance Direct to deposit a total sum of up to \$154,115,954 (the Funds) to various newly established capital improvement program project accounts set forth in the attached Schedule of Appropriation; and
7. Authorizes the City Manager to enter into any agreements necessary to accept the Funds.

On June 4, 2021, the Hamilton County Engineer applied for STBG resources through OKI for the Western Hills Viaduct Project, for which the City is the Local Public Authority receiving the funds and was awarded \$1,000,000 for the Project. The City Council approved Ordinance No. 0106-2021, which authorized the City Manager to apply for a grant in an amount up to \$150,000,000 from the TRAC (ALN 20.205), awarded by and through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), to provide resources for the Western Hills Viaduct Project, and the City was awarded an amount up to \$25,000,000. The City Council approved Ordinance No. 0156-2022, which authorized the City Manager to apply for an INFRA grant (ALN 20.934) in an amount up to \$200,000,000 for the Western Hills Viaduct Project, and the City has been awarded an amount up to \$127,115,954. On June 28, 2022, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) announced appropriations for Highway Infrastructure Programs (ALN 20.205) in Division L, Title I of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022, which included \$1,000,000 for the Western Hills Viaduct Project. City Council approval is required to accept the Funds.

The OKI STBG, the TRAC Grant, and the FHWA Allocation require 20 percent local matches, which will be provided from a combination of existing and future City of Cincinnati capital improvement program project accounts, Hamilton County resources, and Transit Infrastructure Grant (TIG) resources. The INFRA Grant requires a minimum 40 percent match, of which 20 percent may come from other federal sources. No new FTEs are associated with the Funds.

Acceptance of the Funds for the Western Hills Viaduct Project is in accordance with the "Connect" goal to "[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability," as well as the strategy to "[p]lan, design and implement a safe and sustainable transportation system," described on pages 129-138 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The Administration recommends passage of this Ordinance.

cc: Andrew M. Dudas, Budget Director  
Karen Alder, Finance Director



Attachments