



# City of Cincinnati

## Economic Growth & Zoning Committee

### Meeting Minutes

Vice Mayor Christopher Smitherman, Chairperson  
Councilmember Jeff Pastor, Vice Chair  
Councilmember Betsy Sundermann

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**Tuesday, September 15, 2020      11:00 AM      Council Chambers, Room 300**

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#### ROLL CALL

**Present:** Christopher Smitherman  
Betsy Sundermann  
**Absent:** Vice Chair Jeff Pastor

Also in attendance was Councilmember Kearney, Landsman and Sittenfeld (Remote), Chief Council Marion Haynes, Deputy Director of DCED Morgan Sutter, and Clerk of the Committee Nicole Crawford.

The following remote speaker was granted the floor for two minutes: Carol Gibbs

#### AGENDA

1. ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY), dated 9/2/2020, submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, ACCEPTING and confirming the dedication of 0.054 acres of real property in the Avondale neighborhood of Cincinnati to public use for right-of-way purposes as portions of the Harvey Avenue, Burnet Avenue, and East Martin Luther King Jr. Drive rights-of-way. [202001386](#)  
  
PASS EMERGENCY  
  
Recommend Passage Emergency  
**Yes:** Chairperson Smitherman  
Councilmember Sundermann  
**Absent:** Vice Chair Pastor
2. MOTION, submitted by Councilmembers Landsman and Sittenfeld, The need to update Cincinnati's residential property tax abatement program has emerged as a key community priority. As part of this evolving conversation, the Property Tax Working Group has released preliminary recommendations Q1 of this year. One recommendation from the Working Group is amending the residential property tax abatement program to include a tiered approach, similar to that implemented in Columbus, Ohio. This tiered approach would allow for equitable funding for our schools and other critical levies; increased support for critical City [202000633](#)

services; and new investments in neighborhoods to support residents and reverse decades-long patterns of disinvestment. Ensuring that Cincinnati remains competitive while increasing equity and lifting up all of our neighborhoods and residents is essential for Cincinnati's success now and in the future. WE MOVE that the City Administration report on the impact of residential abatements on both property and earning tax revenues. WE FURTHER MOVE that the City Administration report on how Cincinnati can best create a tiered residential abatement program that would continue to encourage residential development in neighborhoods that are already experiencing growth; further incentivize residential development in neighborhoods that have lacked similar investment; and strengthen the incentive for rehabilitation of existing residential properties in high-investment neighborhoods, thus relieving the unintended economic pressure to tear down and build new vs. rehab when appropriate. (BALANCE OF MOTION ON FILE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE)

#### Failed of Adoption

**No:** Councilmember Sundermann

**Absent:** Vice Chair Pastor

**Abstain:** Chairperson Smitherman

The Economic, Growth & Zoning Committee adjourned at 12:35 p.m.