

August 3, 2026

To: Members of the Budget, Finance & Governance Committee

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

Subject: **Ordinance – Police: FY 2026 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant**

202602455

Attached is an Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$60,000 from the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Office of Criminal Justice Services, FY 2026 Violence Against Women Act Grant Program (ALN 16.588) to support the Domestic Violence Law Enforcement Advocate Project in collaboration with Women Helping Women; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant funds into Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368x8553, project account no. 26VAWA.

This Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$60,000 from the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS), Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS), FY 2026 Violence Against Women Act Grant Program (ALN 16.588) to support the Domestic Violence Law Enforcement Advocate Project (DVLEAP) in collaboration with Women Helping Women (WHW). This Ordinance also authorizes the Director of Finance to deposit the grant funds into Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368x8553, project account no. 26VAWA.

The grant is available through the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Office of Criminal Justice Services to support the Domestic Violence Law Enforcement Advocate Project. DVLEAP is a collaboration between the Cincinnati Police Department and Women Helping Women. WHW provides crisis intervention services for victims of domestic violence throughout the police investigation and court process. If awarded, one hundred percent of the grant funding will be provided to WHW to support the salaries of two Law Enforcement Advocates who staff the DVLEAP.

There are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with this grant. The grant does require a local match of up to \$20,000, which will be provided through the services of WHW staff.

The City has already applied for the grant to meet the application deadline of July 7, 2026, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by the City Council.

Providing resources to WHW to assist victims of domestic violence is in accordance with the “Live” goal to “[c]reate a more livable community” as set forth on pages 156-162 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The Administration recommends passage of this Ordinance.

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

Attachment

