

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$16,094,708 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, FY 2025 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program (ALN 97.083) to fund the salary and benefits of up to fifty fire recruits in the Cincinnati Fire Department for three years; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant funds into Fire Grants and Donations Fund 472, revenue account no. 472x8542.

WHEREAS, a grant of up to \$16,094,708 is available from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, FY 2025 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program (ALN 97.083) that, if awarded, would be used to fund the salary and benefits of up to fifty fire recruits in the Cincinnati Fire Department (“CFD”) for three years; and

WHEREAS, the grant would provide resources for a new recruit class resulting in up to fifty additional FTEs, but the addition of these recruits would not exceed CFD’s authorized budgeted sworn strength of 859 FTEs; and

WHEREAS, the grant requires matching funds of 25 percent of personnel costs in the first two years, and 65 percent of personnel costs in the third year, totaling approximately \$6,704,946, which would need to be included in future operating budgets; and

WHEREAS, the grant would not provide resources for non-personnel expenses for the recruit class, including uniforms, personal protective equipment, psychological testing, books, and other ancillary items and services needed to train and outfit the class, totaling up to \$888,820, and resources for these items would need to be provided for in the FY 2028 operating budget to accommodate the next recruit class, which is scheduled to begin in October 2027; and

WHEREAS, the City has already applied for the grant to meet the June 22, 2026 deadline, and awards are expected to be announced in September 2026, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by Council; and

WHEREAS, accepting grant resources to fund the salary and benefits of up to fifty fire recruits is in accordance with the “Live” goal to “[c]reate a more livable community” as described on pages 156-162 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, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$16,094,708 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, FY 2025 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER)

Grant Program (ALN 97.083) to fund the salary and benefits of up to fifty fire recruits in the Cincinnati Fire Department for three years.

Section 2. That the Director of Finance is authorized to deposit the grant funds into Fire Grants and Donations Fund 472, revenue account no. 472x8542.

Section 3. 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 and 2.

Section 4. 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