

March 1, 2023

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager *SM*

202300709

Subject: Emergency Ordinance – DOTE: Streetcar OTP2 and FTA Grants

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

ESTABLISHING new capital improvement program project account no. 980x236x232314, “Streetcar Wash Port – OTP2 Grant,” for the purpose of providing resources for the design, engineering, and construction of an external streetcar parking area and wash port connected to the existing streetcar maintenance and operations facility; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate grant resources in an amount up to \$2,000,000 from the Ohio Department Transportation Ohio Transit Partnership Program (“OTP2”) to Fund No. 455, “Streetcar Operations,” for the purpose of providing resources for preventative maintenance, equipment, and facility upgrades for the streetcar system; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate grant resources in an amount up to \$256,517 from the Federal Transit Administration (“FTA”) Urbanized Area Formula Funding program (49 U.S.C. 5307) (ALN 20.507) to Fund No. 455, “Streetcar Operations,” for the purpose of providing resources for streetcar preventative maintenance support; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit OTP2 and FTA grant resources into Fund No. 455, “Streetcar Operations”; **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and appropriation of an amount up to \$1,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 455, “Streetcar Operations,” into newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x236x232314, “Streetcar Wash Port – OTP2 Grant,” for the purpose of providing resources for the design, engineering, and construction of an external streetcar parking area and wash port connected to the existing streetcar maintenance and operations facility; **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and appropriation of an amount up to \$1,256,517 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 455, “Streetcar Operations,” to Streetcar Operations Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 455x236x7200 for the purpose of providing streetcar preventative maintenance support; and further **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to enter into any agreements necessary for the receipt and administration of these grant resources.

This Emergency Ordinance does the following:

1. Establishes new capital improvement program project account no. 980x236x232314, “Streetcar Wash Port – OTP2 Grant,” to provide resources for the design, engineering, and construction of an external streetcar parking area and wash port connected to the existing streetcar maintenance and operations facility;
2. Authorizes the City Manager to accept and appropriate grant resources in the amount up to \$2,000,000 from the OTP2 to Fund No. 455, “Streetcar Operations,” to provide resources for preventative maintenance, equipment, and facility upgrades for the streetcar system;

3. Authorizes the City Manager to accept and appropriate grant resources in an amount up to \$256,517 from the Federal Transit Administration Urbanized Area Formula Funding program (“FTA UAFF”) to Fund No. 455, “Streetcar Operations,” to provide resources for streetcar preventative maintenance support;
4. Authorizes the Director of Finance to deposit OTP2 and FTA grant resources into Fund No. 455, “Streetcar Operations”;
5. Authorizes the transfer and appropriation of an amount up to \$1,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 455, “Streetcar Operations,” into newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x236x232314, “Streetcar Wash Port – OTP2 Grant”;
6. Authorizes the transfer and appropriation of an amount up to \$1,256,517 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 455, “Streetcar Operations,” to Streetcar Operations Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 455x236x7200; and
7. Authorizes the City Manager to enter into any agreements necessary for the receipt and administration of these grant resources.

Council approved Ordinance No. 0089-2022, which authorized the City Manager to apply for grant resources in an amount up to \$2,839,000 from the Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) under the OTP2 for the purpose of providing resources for preventative maintenance, equipment, and facility upgrades for the streetcar system. The City was awarded OTP2 grant resources in an amount up to \$2,000,000.

The FTA UAFF provides federal resources to urbanized areas for transit-related capital and operating assistance and for transportation planning. The City receives annual funding from the FTA UAFF for streetcar preventative maintenance support, which requires City Council authorization to be accepted.

The OTP2 grant requires a twenty percent local match for preventative maintenance, which will be met using existing resources available in Streetcar Operations Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 455x236x7200 that are anticipated to be offset by federal resources. The OTP2 grant also requires a twenty percent local match for capital improvements, which will be satisfied using ODOT transportation development credits. The FTA UAFF grant requires a twenty-five percent local match, which will be met using existing resources available in Streetcar Operations Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 455x236x7200.

Utilizing Federal Transit Administration and Ohio Transit Partnership Program grant resources to support the streetcar is in accordance with the “Connect” goal to “[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability,” as described on pages 129-138 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept federal and state grant resources in order to begin projects within the State of Ohio’s FY 2023 budget cycle.

The Administration recommends passage of this Ordinance.

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



Attachment