

# ASCEND 2030: CINCINNATI'S NATIONAL MOMENT. *Now*

A \$200,000 catalytic investment  
to make Cincinnati the anchor city  
for responsible municipal AI.

Presented to Cincinnati City Council · May 4, 2026



*Belongs* here.

LOCAL AI =  
LOCAL JOBS.

The AI economy does not have to be extracted to the coasts. We provide local compute, local models, and local pathways.

We keep the upside. We fix the pipeline. We close the gap between "AI is coming to your job" and "AI is how you build your career."

**SUPPORT**  
+ support for founders.

**ACCESS:**  
Affordable tools +  
**CAREER PATHS.**

**CINCINNATI YOUTH:**  
AI LEARNING STARTING  
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL



**Competitive Edge:  
Attract Businesses.  
Grow Our People.**

*Builds the future*

## **Affordable Access**

01

A local AI Access Fund lowers the cost for Cincinnati small businesses and startups to build right here.

## **Talent Grown Here**

02

UC research + AI Training Academy + workforce partners build a workforce of people who live, work, and stay here.

## **Upside Stays Home**

03

Neighborhoods share in the economy. Fair by design. Competitive by default.

# A \$200,000 *SPARK*. A COALITION THAT *MULTIPLIES* IT.



Led by Mayor Aftab Pureval · Rob Richardson, Chair · Dir. Eric Jamison · Clerk Pavan V. Parikh

# PILOT 01: FASTER PERMITS. *Less* PAPERWORK. *More* PROGRESS.

## Today's Problem

Thousands of pages. Hours per permit.

Staff read permit applications, environmental reports, and inspection records by hand.

Housing projects wait. Inspectors spend less time in the field.

## Our Approach

AI reads. People decide.

Smart software reads scanned documents as they are — no giant cleanup project. It pulls out key facts and answers plain-English questions in seconds.

A qualified staff member signs off on every result.



# The Non-Negotiable Rule

## *Human-in-the-Loop*

### AI Extraction

AI reads PDFs, extracts data, drafts summaries.



### Human Validation

Qualified city staff verifies all outputs, checks citations, and retains absolute judgment.



### Official Action



Faster permits, better communication, zero autonomous legal decisions.

# Pilot 1: Unlocking Building & Inspections

The Bottleneck

## Unstructured Data

Thousands of scanned permits, environmental reports, and legacy PDFs require manual data extraction, delaying housing development.

The AI Multiplier

## Chattanooga Benchmark:

**75% Faster**

AI extracts regulatory citations instantly. Generative AI drafts correspondence. Research goes from hours to seconds.



# SMALL BETS. BIG RESIDENT LIFT.

## RESIDENT LIFT



### TRANSLATION.

Real-time speech + text across Cincinnati's top languages. Every resident gets the same quality of service regardless of the language spoken at home.



## FASTER

### FASTER 311.

Quick, consistent answers. Day or night. Simple questions answered in seconds so staff focus on hard cases.



### POLICY RESEARCH.

From weeks of searching to minutes. Staff ask plain-English questions about City rules and get answers with exact sources cited.

# Procurement and AI

## The RFP Procurement Agent: Transforming the Lifecycle



### Citizen Trust Dashboard

Residents can track repair status via a live map. Transparency increases when the public sees "Data-Driven" spending on their specific neighborhoods.

# SKIP THE BIG PROJECT. *CONNECT* WHAT WE HAVE.

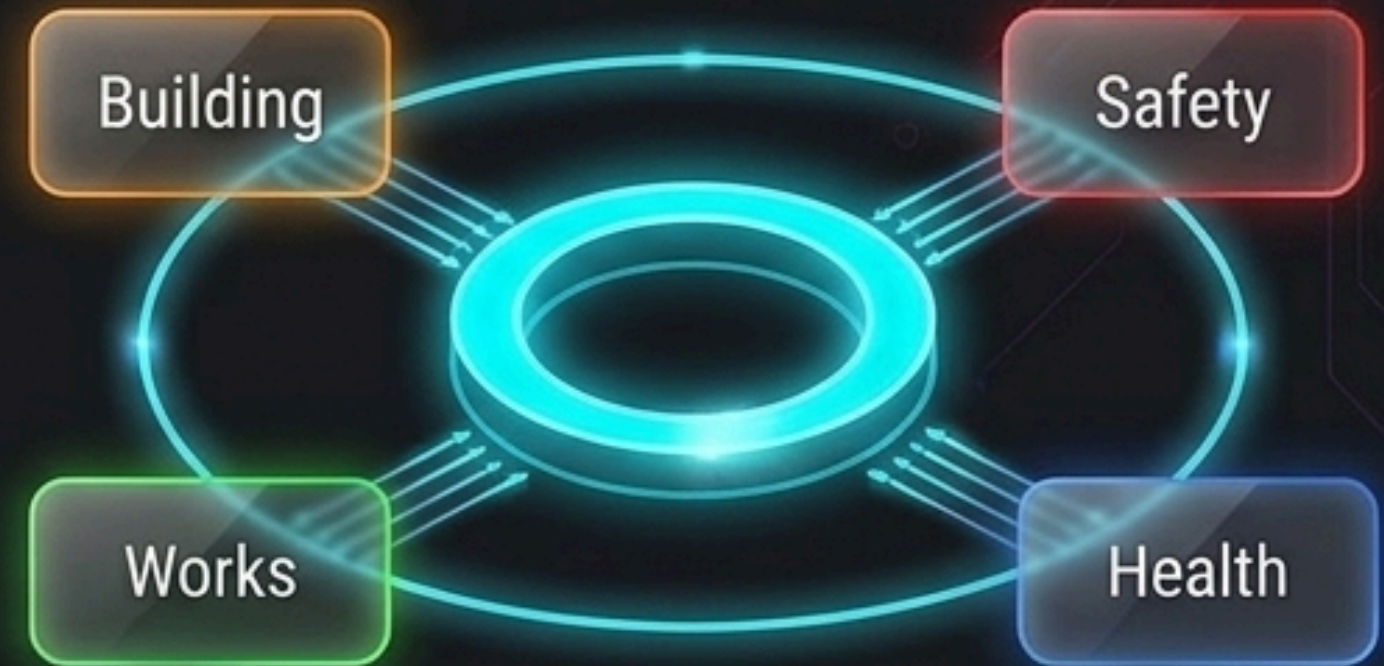
## The Monolith



**The Old Way (Stalls for years):**  
Moving every piece of city data into one giant system.

Versus

## The Shared Search Model



**Ascend 2030 Architecture (Work starts Day One):**  
Each department keeps its own data but publishes it in a safe, shared format. A simple search tool lets the right people find what they need across departments.

The team closest to the data stays responsible for it. The City owns everything.

# THE RESPONSIBLE AI POLICY



## ADOPTION

### HUMAN JUDGMENT.

A qualified staff member reviews every AI result before the City acts. Residents are told when AI shaped a decision, it's explained in plain English, and it can be appealed.



## SAFETY

### STRESS-TEST EVERY TIME.

Before going live, we check for wrong answers, bad actors (tricking the tool), and privacy risks. Then we publish what we find.



## EQUITY

### EQUITY BY DESIGN.

No tool goes live if it treats any community worse based on race, income, neighborhood, or language. Affordable access for small businesses.



## WORKFORCE

### LEARN BY DOING.

Cincinnati AI Academy.  
1,000+ residents trained by 2028.

# YEAR ONE — 2026. **PASS THE POLICY.** RUN THE PILOTS. **PROVE THE PAYOFF.**



## Q1: POLICY PASSED.

Council passes Responsible AI Policy and approves \$200K. Task Force officially begins.



## Q2: TRAINING BEGINS.

Staff start learning with UC. Buying tools begins. Practice space opens.



## Q3: PILOTS LAUNCH.

Faster Permits goes live. Shared data system connects. Results start coming in.



## Q4: NATIONAL STAGE.

MidwestCon Summit. Year-1 results published. First federal grants submitted.

# BEYOND 2026. CINCINNATI LEADS.

## 2027: EXPANSION.

AI Academy opens  
**(1,000+ TRAINED)**.  
Healthcare AI lab launches  
with Children's. More  
departments connect.

## 2028: OPEN TO ALL.

Shared city data goes public.  
First **FEDERAL GRANTS WON**.  
AI Access Fund opens for  
local founders.

## 2029: NATIONAL ANCHOR.

Full results report published.  
Cincinnati becomes a  
**PERMANENT LEADER** of the  
national Government AI  
Coalition.