

May 28, 2026

**To:** Mayor and Members of City Council

202601679

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

**Subject: Emergency Ordinance – Budget: Capital Budget Reprogramming**

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Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

**AUTHORIZING** the establishment of permanent improvement program project account nos. 980x101x261003, “Findlay Market Area Improvements,” to provide resources for improvements to the area in and around Findlay Market including, but not limited to, 1720 Race Street; 980x101x261009, “Connected Communities Improvements,” to provide resources for improvements necessary to advance the goals of Connected Communities including, but not limited to, the BuildReady program; 980x101x261013, “West Fork Incinerator Demolition,” to provide resource for the Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority to remediate the West Fork Incinerator site, and 980x161x261628, “Neighborhood & Community Infrastructure,” to provide resources for place-based, quality-of-life investments including community-based improvements, neighborhood investments connected to resident services, and other neighborhood-focused permanent improvements; **AUTHORIZING** the establishment of capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x262371, “LEAP Academy Safety Improvements,” to provide resources to plan, design, construct, and inspect safety and traffic calming improvements near the LEAP Academy located in the neighborhood of North Fairmount; **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and return to source of \$5,370,908.30 from various General Capital Budget capital or permanent improvement program project accounts to close out or decrease certain existing capital or permanent improvement program project accounts, according to Schedule A of the attached Schedules of Transfer, effective immediately in FY 2026; **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and appropriation of \$4,099,239.26 from the unappropriated surplus of various funds to new or existing capital or permanent improvement program project accounts to provide resources for certain capital or permanent improvement program project accounts, according to Schedule B of the attached Schedules of Transfer for FY 2027; **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and appropriation of \$1,121,669.00 from the unappropriated surplus of General Fund 050 to various non-personnel operating budget accounts within the General Fund, according to Schedule C of the attached Schedules of Transfer for FY 2027; **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and appropriation of \$150,000.04 from the unappropriated surplus of General Fund 050 to City Planning and Engagement General Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 050x171x7200, effective immediately in FY 2026; and further **DECLARING** certain projects to be for a public purpose, all to carry out the Capital Improvement Program.

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance will authorize various adjustments to the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and General Fund Operating Budget. Schedule A of the attached Schedule of Transfer includes the return of \$5,370,908.30 from various existing capital or permanent improvement program project accounts to various funding sources. Schedule B authorizes the transfer and appropriation of \$4,099,239.26 from the unappropriated surplus of various funds to new or existing capital or permanent improvement program project accounts for FY 2027. Section C authorizes the transfer and appropriation of \$1,121,669.00 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to various non-personnel operating budget accounts for FY 2027.

The purpose of this ordinance is to address outstanding capital appropriations for the Department of Community and Economic Development in relation to the transition to the Office of Strategic Growth and the new Department of Opportunity and Resident Services. This ordinance will provide resources for the following purposes for deployment in FY 2027:

- Office of Strategic Growth
  - \$842,239.26 in additional resources for Strategic Growth Initiatives, which is intended as a supplement to \$500,000 included in the Recommended FY27 Budget. These resources will be utilized for assisting development initiatives that will facilitate retention, expansion, and attraction of businesses or development of housing in the City.
  - \$322,000 in additional resources for the Neighborhood Development Fund, which is intended as a supplement to \$13,000,000 included in the Recommended FY27 Budget. These resources will be utilized for that program to support development of housing, commercial, and mixed-use structures. These funds are from a restricted source and must be used for housing development.
  - \$194,000 in additional resources for the Office of Strategic Growth, intended to fund maintenance and other costs associated with City-owned real estate formerly managed by the Department of Community and Economic Development.
- Department of Opportunity and Resident Services
  - \$1,000,000 in resources (\$500,000 in capital and \$500,000 in operating) for Neighborhood and Community Infrastructure, which will fund a new community grant program in FY27.
  - \$500,000 in additional resources for Small Business and Commercial Stabilization, which is intended as a supplement to \$2,500,000 included in the Recommended FY27 Budget. These resources will be utilized for to support small business growth in the City.

The redistribution of these resources will allow the Administration to address several pressing needs as follows:

- \$640,000 in resources to support the lease and renovation of the City-owned property at 1720 Race Street that will be leased by the Corporation for Findlay Market, as approved by Council in Ordinance 0123-2026, passed on April 29, 2026.
- \$695,000 in resources to provide for the needed grant match funding for the HUD Pro Housing grant received by the City for the BuildReady initiative.

- \$400,000 in resources to provide needed resources for the grant funded demolition of the incinerator property in South Cumminsville.
- \$477,669 in resources to provide \$150,000 towards the Downtown Plan efforts being undertaken by the City’s Department of Planning and Engagement and the \$327,669 balance to fund the update to Plan Cincinnati.
- \$100,000 in resources to extend the City’s support of the OTR Ambassador program into North Over-the-Rhine through FY27.
- \$200,000 in resources to address pedestrian safety issues for Cincinnati Public School’s LEAP Academy in North Fairmount.

Authorizing development reprogramming activities is in accordance with the “Sustain” goal to “[m]anage our financial resources” as well as the strategies to “[b]etter coordinate our capital improvement spending” and “[s]pend public funds more strategically” as described on pages 199 and 202-204 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to ensure that necessary funding is in place to meet commitments in FY 2026 and at the beginning of FY 2027, which begins on July 1, 2026.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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



Attachments