

March 3, 2021

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

**From:** Paula Boggs Muething, City Manager *CB for PBM 202100842*

**Subject:** **Emergency Ordinance – Appropriation of Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations for Rental Assistance**

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Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

**AUTHORIZING** the appropriation of the sum of \$9,072,946 to the COVID-19 Fund 473 City Manager’s Office non-personnel operating budget account no. 473x101x7400 for the purpose of providing reimbursement of or resources for an Emergency Rental Assistance program as part of the City’s COVID-19 response; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to contract with third-parties and take other actions to quickly implement an Emergency Rental Assistance program.

This Emergency Ordinance would appropriate the sum of \$9,072,946 to the COVID-19 Fund 473 City Manager’s Office non-personnel operating budget account no. 473x101x7400.

Ordinance No. 0025-2021 authorized the acceptance of funds from the United States Department of Treasury as provided by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act for the purpose of providing resources for an Emergency Rental Assistance program to assist households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This Emergency Ordinances also authorize the City Manager to contract with third-parties and take other actions to quickly implement an Emergency Rental Assistance program. To deploy these funds quickly, the City Administration intends to enter into a partnership with Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency (CAA). This partnership will build off the experience that the CAA has derived from running other assistance programs during the pandemic and has the added benefit of leveraging additional Emergency Rental Assistance program funding that the CAA will receive from the State of Ohio. This arrangement avoids unnecessary duplication of programming for deployment of the same federal funds and will result in simpler public messaging on where to access assistance. The City Administration will provide the City Council with additional details on the proposed partnership in Committee.

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accomplish the authorized COVID-19 related reimbursements and expenditures.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Christopher A. Bigham, Assistant City Manager  
Karen Alder, Finance Director

Attachment