

October 4, 2023

To: Mayor and Members of Council

202302097

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

**Subject: Ordinance – DOTE: Reconnecting Communities Grant and
Neighborhood Equity Program Grant Application**

Attached is an Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for a Reconnecting Communities grant and a Neighborhoods Equity Program grant (ALN 20.940) awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation in an amount up to \$149,812,300 to construct cap structures above Fort Washington Way.

This Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to apply for a Reconnecting Communities grant and a Neighborhoods Equity Program grant (ALN 20.940) awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) in the amount of up to \$149,812,300 to construct cap structures above Fort Washington Way. Installing cap structures above Fort Washington Way will enable the area to be claimed for additional public space in downtown Cincinnati as an area for residents and visitors.

USDOT may award a Reconnecting Communities grant for a minimum amount of \$5,000,000 with a required fifty percent local match. USDOT may award a separate Neighborhoods Equity program grant of up to eighty percent of the total project cost. If awarded, the Department of Transportation and Engineering (DOTE) will identify local matching sources. No new FTEs/full-time equivalents are required for these grants.

Pursuing grant opportunities to support the Fort Washington Way cap structures is in accordance with the “Connect” goal to “[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability” and strategy to “[p]lan, design, and implement a safe and sustainable transportation system” as described on pages 129-138 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The Administration recommends passage of this Ordinance.

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



Attachment