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RESOLUTION NO. 27 - 2026

APPROVING The Banks Urban Design Plan Update as the planning guide for The Banks in the Central Business District neighborhood.

WHEREAS, in 2025 the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County began the process of creating the first comprehensive planning document for The Banks since the original guiding document was published in 2000; and

WHEREAS, in crafting an updated planning document for The Banks, Hamilton County selected a team of architectural, planning, and design consultants that formed a steering committee with community stakeholders including the City of Cincinnati, the Cincinnati Reds, the Cincinnati Bengals, landowners, venue operators, institutional partners, and other major tenants at The Banks to help guide the new plan; and

WHEREAS, over the course of a year, the steering committee made assessments of existing conditions at the Banks, identified goals for the future of The Banks, promoted solutions to existing challenges, conducted surveys, held meetings, and presented plan concepts to the Equitable Growth and Housing Committee of the City of Cincinnati and to the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners to achieve the desired neighborhood quality of life and future development of The Banks; and

WHEREAS, these efforts led to the creation of The Banks Urban Design Plan Update to serve as the guiding instrument for the development of The Banks in the Central Business District neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cincinnati, Hamilton County, and community stakeholders desire for The Banks Urban Design Plan Update to be officially approved by the Council so that it may serve as the City of Cincinnati's official planning guide for The Banks in the Central Business District neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, The Banks Urban Design Plan Update is consistent with the Strategies for all five Initiative Areas of Plan Cincinnati (2012), particularly the Compete Initiative Area goal to "[f]oster a climate conducive to growth, investment, stability, and opportunity" (page 102); the Connect Initiative Area goal to "[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability" (page 129); the Live Initiative Area goal to "[d]evelop and maintain inviting and engaging public spaces to encourage social interaction between different types of people" (page 150); the Sustain Initiative Area goal to "[p]reserve our natural and built environment" (page 193); and the Collaborate Initiative Area goal to "[w]ork in synergy with the Cincinnati community" (page 210); and

WHEREAS, at its meeting on May 15, 2026, the City Planning Commission reviewed The Banks Urban Design Plan Update and recommended it for approval; and

WHEREAS, a committee of Council considered and approved The Banks Urban Design Plan Update, finding it in the interest of the public's health, safety, morals, and general welfare; and

WHEREAS, Council considers The Banks Urban Design Plan Update to be in the best interests of the City and the public's health, safety, morals, and general welfare; now, therefore,

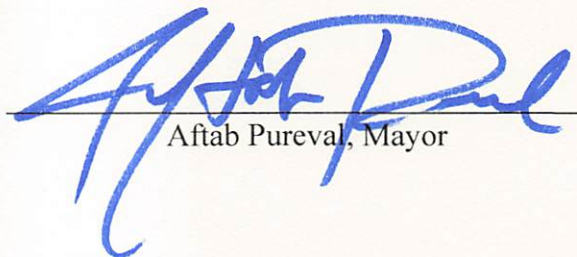
BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That The Banks Urban Design Plan Update is in furtherance of the goals, strategies, and visions of the City of Cincinnati and its comprehensive plan, Plan Cincinnati (2012).

Section 2. That The Banks Urban Design Plan Update, attached hereto as Attachment A and incorporated by reference herein, is hereby approved.

Section 3. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that a copy be sent by the Clerk of Council to the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners.

Passed: June 10, 2026


Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: 
Clerk