

RESOLUTION NO. 6 - 2022

**EXPRESSING** the support of the Mayor and City Council for the City to collaborate with Hamilton County and other regional stakeholders to generate a comprehensive strategy for redevelopment of the Duke Energy Convention Center and surrounding properties into a true convention center district, including through the engagement of 3CDC for planning and management services related to such district.

WHEREAS, the City owns the Duke Energy Convention Center (“DECC”), located in downtown Cincinnati, which was developed in collaboration with other public and private stakeholders to drive economic activity in the region by attracting and hosting conventions and other large events; and

WHEREAS, the current configuration of the DECC, the lack of proximate amenities, and the underutilization of surrounding properties is hampering the DECC’s ability to compete against other regional and national convention center destinations, resulting in a loss of convention and event business to our region; and

WHEREAS, the DECC and the surrounding buildings and properties (collectively, the “Convention Center District”) are in need of a comprehensive redevelopment strategy in order to coordinate development efforts by public and private parties to ensure that Cincinnati can become not just a regional but a national destination for conventions and large events; and

WHEREAS, the City, Hamilton County, the Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority, and other regional stakeholders, both public and private, have recently taken constructive steps to get much of the Convention Center District under public control; and

WHEREAS, 3CDC is a locally based non-profit organization focused on the redevelopment of the City’s urban core and has a proven track record of success in establishing and executing on comprehensive redevelopment strategies in our city center; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to have those stakeholders engage 3CDC for its expert planning, development, and management services to assist in revitalizing the Convention Center District, including completion of the convention center hotel by fall of 2025, as more particularly described on Attachment A hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council expect thorough community engagement of City residents, neighboring small businesses, and intentionally diverse stakeholders to ensure an equitable and inclusive approach to revitalization within the Convention Center District; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council expect individual development agreements resulting from the Convention Center District plan to include specific and actionable minority inclusion

goals, local hire outreach commitments, and to maintain a lens of racial equity throughout the development process; and

WHEREAS, as part of 3CDC's strategic planning role for the Convention Center District, 3CDC will work with the City Administration, Hamilton County, the Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority, and other regional stakeholders to develop an inclusion policy and plan that creates a roadmap for implementing inclusion goals and promoting participation by minority-owned developers and other minority businesses in the redevelopment of the Convention Center District; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to support and encourage further collaboration with and engagement of Hamilton County, the Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority, City residents, and other area stakeholders to create a comprehensive strategy for redevelopment of the Convention Center District, which strategy will result in the creation of a true convention center district through engagement of 3CDC's development services, thus promoting urban redevelopment and stimulating economic growth in the City and the region; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council hereby express their support for the City to collaborate with Hamilton County and other regional stakeholders to generate a comprehensive strategy for redevelopment of the Duke Energy Convention Center and surrounding area into a true convention center district, including through the engagement of 3CDC for planning and management services related to such district, as described on Attachment A hereto.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council.

Passed: January 26, 2022

  
Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: Nicola Inayza  
Acting Clerk