

EMERGENCY

IMD

-2024

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for a grant of up to \$150,000 from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources NatureWorks program to redevelop the former City playground located at 1721 Linn Street into a community greenspace.

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources NatureWorks program provides local governments with grant funding for the acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of recreational areas (the “NatureWorks Grant”); and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the former City playground located at 1721 Linn Street was attracting excessive criminal activity and was deconstructed following a vote by the West End Community Council; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to transform the property located at 1721 Linn Street into a community greenspace, a design that was developed through the 2022 SafeGrowth report and the Spaces to Places Program with Keep Cincinnati Beautiful; and

WHEREAS, the NatureWorks Grant requires a 25 percent local match of up to \$37,500, which the City intends to supply with in-kind labor, but if needed, resources currently are available in capital improvement program project account no. 980x104x231029, “Green Cincinnati Sustainability Initiatives – GF,” and can be transferred to the Office of Environment and Sustainability’s operating budget to support the local match requirement; and

WHEREAS, there are no additional FTEs/full time equivalents associated with the NatureWorks Grant; and

WHEREAS, the City already applied for the NatureWorks Grant to meet the application deadline of August 15, 2024, but no funding will be accepted without approval by Council; and

WHEREAS, redeveloping the former City playground located at 1721 Linn Street into a community greenspace is in accordance with the “Live” goal to “[b]uild a robust public life” and strategy to “[d]evelop and maintain inviting and engaging public spaces to encourage social interaction between different types of people” as described on pages 149 – 152 of Plan Cincinnati (2012); now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That the City Manager is authorized to apply for a grant of up to \$150,000 from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources NatureWorks program to redevelop the former City playground located at 1721 Linn Street into a community greenspace.

Section 2. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the terms of the grant application and Section 1.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare and shall, subject to the terms of Article II, Section 6 of the Charter, be effective immediately. The reason for the emergency is the need to provide an approved ordinance to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources by September 15, 2024.

Passed: _____, 2024

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk