



October 23, 2024

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

202402214

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

Subject: Emergency Ordinance – Parks: Ohio Land and Water Conservation Grant for Owl’s Nest Park Improvements

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for a grant of up to \$500,000 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (ALN 15.916) awarded by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to provide resources for improvements at Owl’s Nest Park.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is a federally funded reimbursement grant program awarded by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) that provides up to fifty percent project funding for the acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of recreational areas.

The City intends to apply for a grant of up to \$500,000 to improve Owl’s Nest Park. The grant requires matching funds of up to \$500,000, which would be provided by existing or future Parks Department capital improvement program project accounts and/or private donations from the Cincinnati Parks Foundation.

There are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with this grant.

The grant application deadline is November 15, 2024, and the City may have already applied for the grant, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by the City Council.

Improving Owl’s Nest Park is in accordance with the “Collaborate” goal to “[w]ork in synergy with the Cincinnati community” as well as the strategy to “[u]nite our communities” as described on pages 207-212 of Plan Cincinnati (2012)

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to apply for grants resources prior to deadlines established by the grantor.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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



Attachment