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Evan Nolan Councilmember

April 4, 2025

Councilmember Evan Nolan Budget Priorities for the FY26 Recommended Budget

Cincinnati's recent growth has provided tangible momentum for the city, but it is not a given. We must be intentional with our policies and strategic direction to ensure we continue to grow decades into the future. Through deliberate investments in housing, economic development, and evolving the efficiency by which the City operates, we can be the catalyst for positively transforming disinvested neighborhoods, improving the safety and quality of life for all our residents, and achieving fiscal sustainability. The pursuit of these goals will require challenging the status quo and striving for racial equity through economic empowerment and recognition of the disparities that persist in our city today.

Operating

- Competitive pay schedules for the **Law Department** to attract and retain talent while bolstering our efforts in Quality of Life.
- Ensure necessary support for **Buildings & Inspections** as they implement the Vacant Building Registry and gather information on the vacant building stock in the city.
- Expand support for **Access to Counsel**, including rental assistance for tenants to avoid eviction and homelessness.
- Invest necessary resources for the creation of the **Office of Strategic Growth** to push Cincinnati towards being the most competitive municipality in the region and achieve our bold housing goals.
- Retain funding for and launch the **Child Savings Account** program that resulted from the Cities for Financial Empowerment Financial Freedom Blueprint.
- Continue to expand the **Alternative Response to Crisis Unit**, which ensures trained mental health professionals are responding to calls for service and supports the community's top public safety priority.

Capital

- Expand City investment in neighborhoods that have lacked new economic development and housing. We should support programs such as **Quickstrike, NCCIP, DCED business support and retention** and **other capital support for our CDCs** to put money directly in the hands of local mission-driven organizations driving positive development across the city.

- Adherence to the administration's **Cincy on Track Plan**, with a focus on the 6-year capital improvement strategy to address existing deferred maintenance and fulfill our commitment to voters. The goal should be the beneficiaries of projects, not geographic constraints.
- Commit to a strategy and long-term funding solutions for the **maintenance and replacement of the City's fleet infrastructure**, with an emphasis on technology upgrades to support our public service workers.
- Continued funding for the **Affordable Housing Leveraged Fund**, which has a proven track record and is the City's best tool to combat the housing crisis.
- Consideration of funding for **the rehabilitation of vacant buildings** in response to motion #202500567 (Nolan, Johnson, Jeffreys) to assist property owners in need and put long-empty buildings back into productive use.



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