

City of Cincinnati

An Ordinance No. _____

CNS

EESW

- 2025

MODIFYING the provisions of Chapter 1041, "Environmental Advisory Board," of the Cincinnati Municipal Code by **AMENDING** Section 1041-5, "Board membership, meetings, and governance," to increase the maximum number of Environmental Advisory Board members.

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2023, Council passed Ordinance No. 121-2023, which established Cincinnati's Environmental Advisory Board to promote awareness of environmental and sustainability issues in Cincinnati; serve as a public advocate for the City's Office of Environment and Sustainability; and assist the Office of Environment and Sustainability in implementing the recommendations of the Green Cincinnati Plan; and

WHEREAS, after continued engagement with Environmental Advisory Board members and persons interested in becoming board members, Council finds it necessary to increase the maximum number of Environmental Advisory Board members to provide greater opportunity for inclusion of diverse and qualified board members to support Cincinnati as a leader in sustainability policy and city-level climate change initiatives; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That Section 1041-5, "Board membership, meetings, and governance," of Chapter 1041, "Environmental Advisory Board," of the Cincinnati Municipal Code is amended as follows:

Sec. 1041-5. – Board membership, meetings, and governance.

- (a) The city manager shall appoint the members of the environmental advisory board. The environmental advisory board shall consist of a minimum of nine and a maximum of fourteen-nineteen members, with a majority of currently serving members creating a quorum. The members shall be diverse in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, and age, and shall be professionally involved in environmental and sustainability projects and issues or community advocates for such projects and issues. Members shall serve without compensation. The city manager shall take into account and reflect the priorities of the Green Cincinnati Plan when appointing members and shall prefer stakeholders who are personally or professionally focused on such priorities for appointment.
- (b) The director of the office of environment and sustainability or the director's designee shall be an ex-officio board member who shall not vote and shall not count as one of the fourteen board members appointed by the city manager.

- (c) In the environmental advisory board's first year, the city manager shall appoint up to five members for a term of three years, up to five members for a term of two years, and up to four members for a term of one year, so that approximately one-third of the positions shall be eligible for renewal or replacement each year. Upon the expiration of the initial term of each member, each member's appointment may be renewed for up to two additional three-year terms. Members may hold over until the appointment of a successor member, but for not more than a period of six months. The city manager shall make appointments to fill vacancies caused by the death or resignation of members in unexpired terms.
- (d) The environmental advisory board shall meet on a quarterly basis or more frequently as needed. All meetings shall be public meetings.
- (e) The environmental advisory board is authorized to pass by laws or other regulations governing the board, provided that such bylaws or regulations do not conflict with any provision of the municipal code.
- (f) The environmental advisory board, through its bylaws, shall establish a structure of standing committees with specific areas of responsibility for accomplishing the mission and duties of the board. The board shall elect a chair, who shall be responsible for setting the board's agenda. The chair shall consult with the director of the office of environment and sustainability in developing the board's agenda.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

Passed: _____, 2026

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Deletions are indicated by strikethrough; additions are indicated by underline.