

September 5, 2024

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

202401950

Subject: Ordinance – OES: USDN Resilience Hub Grant Application

Attached is an Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for a grant of up to \$30,000 from the Urban Sustainability Directors Network to perform a resilience hub assessment, prepare a resilience hub plan, and conduct an energy audit with solar assessment at the Urban League of Greater Southwest Ohio offices in the Avondale neighborhood.

Approval of this Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to apply for a grant of up to \$30,000 from the Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN) to perform a resilience hub assessment, prepare a resilience hub plan, and conduct an energy audit with solar assessment at the Urban League of Greater Southwest Ohio (ULGSO) offices in the Avondale neighborhood. The City served as the lead applicant for the grant, but the ULGSO and Groundwork Ohio will be sub-awardees of the grant.

A community codeveloped resilience hub assessment and plan would help meet the needs of Avondale residents by providing the next steps towards a solar array, a battery backup, energy efficiency upgrades, emergency preparedness, disaster recovery capabilities, job and life skills training, resource access, extreme heat and cold shelter, and connections to nature. A resilience hub could also improve social cohesion by serving as a safe gathering space and a point of community preparedness.

This grant does not require matching resources or new FTEs/full time equivalents.

The City already applied for the grant to meet the application deadline of August 15, 2024. However, no funds will be accepted without City Council approval.

Developing a resilience hub assessment and plan is in accordance with the “Sustain” goal to “[b]ecome a healthier Cincinnati” and strategy to “[c]reate a healthy environment and reduce energy consumption” and the “Collaborate” goal to “[s]peak in a unified voice with other entities to reach regional goals” and strategy to “[a]ctively coordinate our regional efforts” as described on pages 181-186 and 213-216 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The Administration recommends passage of this Ordinance.

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



Attachment