



January 24, 2024

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

202400293

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

Subject: Emergency Ordinance – Health: Waste Reduction Innovation Grant

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$15,000 from the Hamilton County R3Source program, Waste Reduction Innovation Grant, to purchase and install community freezers and associated supplies in Avondale and Millvale; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant funds into Public Health Research Fund revenue account no. 350x8571.

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$15,000 from the Hamilton County R3Source program, Waste Reduction Innovation Grant, for the purpose of purchasing and installing community freezers and associated supplies in Avondale and Millvale. This Emergency Ordinance further authorizes the Finance Director to deposit the grant funds into Public Health Research Fund revenue account no. 350x8571.

This pilot program by the Cincinnati Health Department (CHD), Healthy Communities Program is in coordination with the Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC) Hirsch and Millvale Recreation Centers. The goal of the program is to address food insecurity in the Avondale and Millvale food systems. Freezers will be stocked with meals produced from rescued food with a goal of providing approximately 1,170 meals per week in each neighborhood. Freezers will be placed indoors at both CRC locations for community members to have access to rescued foods that would otherwise end up in landfills without screening and free of judgement. An estimated 44,980 pounds of food would be diverted by this program.

This grant requires a 25% in-kind local match valued at up to \$3,750, which CHD will satisfy by assigning an existing Food Equity Coordinator from the Healthy Communities Program to implement the community freezer program. No additional FTEs/full time equivalents are required to accept this grant.

The City has already applied for this grant, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by the City Council.

Acceptance of this grant is in accordance with the “Sustain” goal to “[b]ecome a healthier Cincinnati” as described on pages 181-192 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept the funds within the deadline established by the Grant as well as deploy the Grant resources in a timely manner.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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

Attachment

