

March 27, 2024

To: Mayor and Members of City Council 202400938
From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager
Subject: **Emergency Ordinance – CRC: Ohio River Trail ODNR Grant**

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the establishment of capital improvement program project account no. 980x199x241916, “Ohio River Trail – ODNR RTP Grant,” to provide grant resources for the construction of a foot trail connecting a segment of the Ohio River Trail into a complete loop; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$150,000 from the State of Ohio, Ohio Department of Natural Resources Recreation Trails Program (ALN 20.219) to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x199x241916, “Ohio River Trail – ODNR RTP Grant”; and **AUTHORIZING** the Finance Director to deposit the grant resources of up to \$150,000 into newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x199x241916, “Ohio River Trail – ODNR RTP Grant.”

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance would authorize the establishment of capital improvement project account no. 980x199x241916, “Ohio River Trail – ODNR RTP Grant,” to provide grant resources for the construction of a foot trail connecting a segment of the Ohio River Trail (ORT) into a complete loop. Additionally, the Emergency Ordinance would authorize the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant in an amount up to \$150,000 from the State of Ohio, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Recreation Trails Program (RTP), to capital improvement program project account no. 980x199x241916, “Ohio River Trail – ODNR RTP Grant.” Finally, the Emergency Ordinance authorizes the Finance Director to deposit the grant resources into capital improvement program project account no. 980x199x241916, “Ohio River Trail – ODNR RTP Grant.”

The Cincinnati Recreation Commission and River West Working Group partnered to submit a grant application to the ODNR to support the construction of a foot trail connecting a segment of the Ohio River Trail into a complete loop. The City has already applied for the grant, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval from the City Council.

The grant requires a local match of 20 percent, which will be provided from existing and future allocations to the “Outdoor Facility Renovations” and “Recreation Facility Improvements” capital improvement program project accounts. There are no new FTEs associated with this grant application.

Extending the Ohio River Trail is in accordance with the “Connect” goal to “[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability” and strategy to “[e]xpand options for non-automotive travel,” as well as the “Live” goal to “[c]reate a more livable community” and the strategy to “[b]ecome more walkable” as described on pages 129-134 and 156-159 respectively of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is to ensure compliance with grant deadlines.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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



Attachment