city of CINCINNATI
Interdepartment Correspondence Sheet

April 29, 2026

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

20260147

Subject: **Emergency Ordinance – OES: Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grant**

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

> **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) grant (ALN 66.920) of $4,999,557 to fund the replacement of the City's recycling cart fleet; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit the grant funds into Environment and Sustainability Fund revenue account no. 436x8543, Office of Environment and Sustainability project account no. 26SWIFR1, "FY 2026 EPA SWIFR Grant."

This Emergency Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to accept and appropriate grant resources of $4,999,557 from a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) grant (ALN 66.920) to fund the replacement of the City's recycling cart fleet. The Director of Finance is authorized to deposit the grant funds into Environment and Sustainability Fund revenue account no. 436x8543, Office of Environment and Sustainability project account no. 26SWIFR1, "FY 2026 EPA SWIFR Grant."

Ordinance No. 0421-2024, passed on December 18, 2024, authorized the City Manager to apply for a SWIFR grant of up to $5,000,000 from the U.S. EPA to replace the City's aging original recycling cart fleet.

The City's recycling cart fleet includes approximately 80,000 carts that were originally deployed over ten years ago and are now failing at an increasing rate. Replacing the carts will help to increase recycling participation, increase waste diversion from the landfill, and reduce litter impact to the City's storm sewer system.

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

Maintaining a functional recycling cart fleet 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" as described on pages 181-185 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept and appropriate grant funds to meet established project timelines.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Andrew Dudas, Budget Director
Steve Webb, Finance Director

Attachment