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Meeka D. Owens
Cincinnati City Council

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MOTION

“Tenants Bill of Rights” – Tenants Guide Public Release and Engagement

WE MOVE that the Administration conduct strategic engagement with residents of Cincinnati to collect feedback on the drafted “Tenant’s Guide.” The engagement period should be at least ninety (90) days and include distribution of the Guide to a diverse range of tenants, housing providers, community stakeholders and partners; public-facing survey(s); and focus groups.

WE FURTHER MOVE that once the Guide has been finalized based on the feedback received by these stakeholders, the Administration take the necessary steps to present an ordinance to Council that would require the Guide to be presented to, and signed by, all Tenants in a physical form. This would either be in lieu of, along with, the Notice to Tenants currently required until C.M.C. Sec. 871-11.


Councilmember Meeka D. Owens

STATEMENT

Last year, Council requested that the Administration create a “Tenants Guide” to be distributed to tenants in Cincinnati and inform them of their rights, responsibilities, and available resources. Since the documents creation, the Office of Councilmember Owens has engaged with the Administration, community partners, and various stakeholders to workshop the language and layout of the Guide.

Moving forward, it is the intention of Council that this Guide be adopted as a formal mechanism to share this information with every tenant in the City of Cincinnati. However, before it is formally adopted the Guide should be further workshopped with the public, and in particular with renters.

The Office of Councilmember Owens is committed to continuing to engage in this work in partnership with the engagement professionals of the Administration so that the Guide is as complete as possible before it is codified as the law of the City.