



Jeff Cramerding
Councilmember

MEMO

In this year's upcoming budget cycle, I will continue to advocate for funding of critical failing infrastructure in our city as our deferred maintenance continues to grow. I also believe that our budget should prioritize resources for housing needs with increased funding for integral homeowner assistance programs as well as more staffers to proactively preserve our aging housing stock and historic districts in Cincinnati. We recommend that the following budget allocations be made in the upcoming Fiscal Year 2024 budget cycle:

- Establish an emergency Capital fund for critical failing infrastructure that poses a threat to public safety and addresses the impacts of climate change.
- Funding for two additional full-time Urban Conservators within the Department of Planning and Community Engagement. One position should be dedicated to research and writing with the goal of increasing preservation awareness in minority and underserved neighborhoods, and one position for permit and design review.
- Capital funding for phase one of the Cincinnati Recreation Commission's Westwood Gateway project (Mercy West site).
- Increased funding for the American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI) and the Homeowner Assistance Repairs & Building Order Remission Program (HARBOR) and other critical programs that are keeping Cincinnatians in homes.
- Funding for tree plantings on public property (Cincinnati Recreation Commission, Cincinnati Public Schools, Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority, and others) in neighborhoods that are classified as heat islands.

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