

November 13, 2025

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

202501965

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

Subject: Emergency Ordinance – DOTE: Western Hills Viaduct Grant

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

AMENDING Ordinance 8-2022, as previously amended by Ordinance No. 118-2024, to reconcile a difference between Ordinance 8-2022, as previously amended by Ordinance No. 118-2024, and the project grant agreement for the scheduled payment of funds awarded to the Western Hills Viaduct project; **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and appropriation of up to \$29,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 401, “Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants” to existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222392, “Western Hills Viaduct Transit Grant,” to provide resources for transit-related roadway infrastructure improvements for the Western Hills Viaduct.

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance authorizes the following:

1. The amendment of Ordinance 8-2022, as previously amended by Ordinance No. 118-2024, to reconcile a difference between Ordinance 8-2022, as previously amended by Ordinance No. 118-2024, and the project grant agreement for the scheduled payment of funds awarded to the Western Hills Viaduct project.
2. The transfer and appropriation of up to \$29,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 401, “Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants” to existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222392, “Western Hills Viaduct Transit Grant,” which will provide resources for transit-related roadway infrastructure improvements for the Western Hills Viaduct.

On January 20, 2022, Council approved Ordinance No. 0008-2022, which established special revenue fund, Fund No. 401, “Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants,” and authorized the City Manager to accept and deposit a Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) grant of up to \$205,000,000 to provide resources for transit-related roadway infrastructure improvements for the Western Hills Viaduct project. On April 10, 2024, Council approved Ordinance No. 0118-2024, which authorized grant resources of up to \$205,000,000 from the SORTA Transit Infrastructure Fund to be disbursed in the following manner: \$16,400,000 will be deposited into Fund No. 401, “Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants,” followed by twelve annual installments of \$14,500,000 and one final payment of \$14,600,000, totaling up to \$188,600,000, will be assigned to the Transportation Improvement District or its Trustee to pay debt service and related costs on bonds issued for the Western Hills Viaduct Project. Two of the anticipated twelve annual installments of \$14,500,000, totaling \$29,000,000, will be deposited into Fund No. 401, “Transit Infrastructure Fund Grants,” instead of being assigned to the

Transportation Improvement District or its Trustee to pay debt service and related costs on bonds issued for the Western Hills Viaduct project.

The City Council wishes to appropriate up to \$29,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of Fund No. 401 to existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x222392, "Western Hills Viaduct Transit Grant," to provide resources for transit-related roadway infrastructure improvements for the Western Hills Viaduct.

Providing resources for transit-related roadway infrastructure improvements for the Western Hills Viaduct is in accordance with the "Connect" goal to "[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability" as well as the strategy to "[p]lan, design and implement a safe and sustainable transportation system" as described on pages 129-137 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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

Attachment

