

EMERGENCY

AEP

- 2025

AUTHORIZING the expenditure of \$1,900,000 from OneOhio Opioid Distributor Settlement funds for a grant program in partnership with Hamilton County to provide resources to community partners for harm reduction programming, and \$304,000 to Hamilton County Public Health for expansion of the Harm Reduction/Stigma-Free Access for Everyone Service program.

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 259-2022, passed by Council on August 3, 2022, established Opioid Settlement Fund 475 to receive OneOhio Opioid Distributor Settlement funds; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 53-2023, passed by Council on February 15, 2023, amended Ordinance No. 259-2022 to allow the Director of Finance to accept all settlement payments for eligible expenses from the OneOhio Opioid Distributor Settlement; and

WHEREAS, the City and Hamilton County (“County”) are collaborating on a joint grant program to ensure that OneOhio Opioid Distributor Settlement funds address the needs of the community and of local opioid mitigation stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, in August 2024, County grant administrators began gathering input from the County’s Office of Addiction Response to identify local priorities and align grant categories accordingly; and

WHEREAS, the City and the County are conducting a Request for Proposals to award the grants, as outlined in FYI Memo 4501 issued on October 21, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Cincinnati Board of Health will enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the County for the distribution of the grant funds, under which the City will transfer \$1,900,000 in settlement funds to the County, the County will contribute \$2,000,000, and the County will hold and administer agreements with the grantees for the first round of grants; and

WHEREAS, the City will provide an additional \$304,000 of OneOhio Opioid Distributor Settlement resources to Hamilton County Public Health for the expansion of the Harm Reduction/Stigma-Free Access for Everyone (“SAFE”) Service program; and

WHEREAS, \$2,204,000 is currently available in Opioid Settlement Fund 475 and ready for expenditure; and

WHEREAS, according to Ohio Auditor of State Bulletin 2022-003, Council must authorize the expenditure of OneOhio Opioid Distributor Settlement funds by ordinance; and

WHEREAS, \$1,900,000 will be used to (i) expand the availability of treatment for individuals affected by substance use disorders; (ii) develop, promote, and provide evidence-based substance use prevention strategies; (iii) provide substance use avoidance and awareness education; (iv) decrease the oversupply of licit and illicit opioids; and (v) support recovery from

addiction services performed by qualified and appropriately licensed providers in accordance with the approved uses outlined in Ohio Auditor of State Bulletin 2022-003; and

WHEREAS, \$304,000 will be used to provide substance use avoidance and awareness education in accordance with the approved uses outlined in Ohio Auditor of State Bulletin 2022-003; and

WHEREAS, the expenditure of OneOhio Opioid Distributor Settlement funds is in accordance with the “Sustain” goal to “[b]ecome a healthier Cincinnati” as described on pages 179-181 of Plan Cincinnati (2012); now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the expenditure of \$1,900,000 from OneOhio Opioid Distributor Settlement funds for a grant program in partnership with Hamilton County to provide resources to community partners for harm reduction programming, and \$304,000 to Hamilton County Public Health for expansion of the Harm Reduction/Stigma-Free Access for Everyone Service program is authorized.

Section 2. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to comply with the provisions of Section 1.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare and shall, subject to the terms of Article II, Section 6 of the Charter, be effective immediately. The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to expend funds for harm reduction programming and grants that address the needs of the community and of local opioid mitigation stakeholders.

Passed: _____, 2025

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk