

September 27, 2023

**To:** Mayor and Members of City Council

202302043

**From:** Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

**Subject: Emergency Ordinance – OES: West Fork Garage Solar Improvements**

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Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

**ESTABLISHING** capital improvement program project account no. 980x104x241050, “West Fork Garage Solar Improvements,” to provide resources for a new transformer and other electrical upgrades needed to connect the solar panel system being installed on the West Fork Garage to the electrical grid; and **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and appropriation of \$211,094 from the unappropriated surplus of Revolving Energy Loan Fund 883 to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x104x241050, “West Fork Garage Solar Improvements,” to provide the resources necessary to cover the cost of these improvements.

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance would authorize the establishment of capital improvement program project account no. 980x104x241050, “West Fork Garage Solar Improvements,” as well as the transfer and appropriation of \$211,094 from the unappropriated surplus of Revolving Energy Loan Fund 883 to this newly created capital improvement program project account to provide resources for a new transformer and other electrical upgrades needed to connect the solar panel system being installed on the West Fork Garage to the electrical grid.

The City contracted to install a solar panel system on the West Fork Garage that was financed by capital improvement program project account no. 980x255x222534, “City Facility Lighting and Solar Improvements.” Duke Energy informed the contractor that a new transformer and other electrical upgrades are required to connect the new solar panel system to the electrical grid. The existing project account does not have sufficient resources for these additional costs, but resources are available in Revolving Energy Loan Fund 883 to cover this transfer and appropriation. The Office of Environment and Sustainability (OES) anticipates Direct Pay benefits through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) can be used to recover the funds needed for these improvements.

Adding necessary components to complete the West Fork Garage Solar Improvements project 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 179-186 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to provide resources to complete the West Fork Garage Solar Improvements project.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Andrew M. Dudas, Budget Director  
Karen Alder, Finance Director



Attachment