

June 4, 2025

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

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

202501145

**Subject: Emergency Ordinance – Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW):  
OEPA Source Water Protection Program Grant**

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

**AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$20,000 from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency to Water Works non-personnel operating budget account no. 101x301x7200 for supplies, services, and costs associated with Greater Cincinnati Water Works Source Water Protection Program to educate the public on water quality at events such as Greater Cincinnati Water University; and **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to receive and deposit grant funds into Water Works Fund revenue account no. 101x8527.

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$20,000 from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) to GCWW Water Works Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 101x301x7200 for supplies, services, or costs associated with Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW) Source Water Protection Program to educate the public on water quality at events such as Greater Cincinnati Water University. Grant funds are authorized to be deposited into Water Works Fund revenue account no. 101x8527.

This grant will partially cover the cost to offer Greater Cincinnati Water University, which educates local elementary school students about the science of water and water treatment, provides insight into treatment processes, and educates students about the value of water so they become better-informed residents and future water stewards. The grant will also enable GCWW to purchase Enviroscape and Aquifer Sand Tank models which help educate the public on water quality, pollution prevention, and the importance of source water protection.

The City already applied for the grant, which was awarded on March 17, 2025, but no grant funds will be accepted without approval by the City Council.

The grant does not require matching funds. There are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with this grant.

Educating the public on water quality is in accordance with the “Collaborate” goal to “[w]ork in synergy with the Cincinnati community” and strategy to “[u]nite our communities” as described on pages 207-211 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the need to immediately accept the grant prior to the end of Fiscal Year 2025 and remain in compliance with established OEPA grant deadlines.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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

Attachment

