


October 12, 2022

To: Mayor and Members of City Council  
From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager   
Subject: Emergency Ordinance – DOTE: Ohio Avenue Stairway Signage  
Donation from the University of Cincinnati

202201900

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

**AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a donation of \$4,000 from the University of Cincinnati to existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x222313, “Neighborhood Gateways/Greenways Imprvmnt,” for the purpose of providing resources for the design, fabrication, and installation of four new identification signs connecting the Ohio Avenue Steps to the Paw Paw Alley Steps between Ohio Avenue, Van Lear Alley, and Vine Street.

This Emergency Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to accept a donation of \$4,000 from the University of Cincinnati to existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x222313, “Neighborhood Gateways/Greenways Imprvmnt” for the purpose of providing resources for the design, fabrication, and installation of four new identification signs that connect the Ohio Avenue Steps to the Paw Paw Alley Steps between Ohio Avenue, Van Lear Alley, and Vine Street. Per the donation, the signage is to be installed by the end 2022. Fabrication and installation timeframes can range from 8-10 weeks for completion.

The Ohio Avenue and Paw Paw Alley staircases are crucial pedestrian paths that connect the CUF and Over-the-Rhine (OTR) neighborhoods. The proposed stairway signage will create visible public intersections that help pedestrians easily traverse the hillsides between the City’s basin and hillside neighborhoods, similar to a street sign. The four new signs will expand on a mural recently designed and painted on these steps, as well as eight other staircases identified with similar signage. No matching funds or new FTEs are required for acceptance of this donation.

Installation of stairway signage supports connectivity for pedestrians through enhancement of public stairway systems and is in accordance with the “Connect” goal to “develop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability” as well as the strategies to “expand options for non-automotive travel”; and to “plan, design, and implement a safe and sustainable transportation system” as described on pages 127-138 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept funding for the signage, which must be fabricated and installed by the end of the calendar year 2022 to meet the University of Cincinnati's donation deadline.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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

Attachment

