

October 23, 2024

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

202402213

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager 

Subject: **Emergency Ordinance – DOTE: Accept RAISE Grant for Westwood Northern Boulevard Corridor Project**

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

ESTABLISHING new capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x252339, “Westwood Northern Blvd Corridor Grant,” for a comprehensive transportation project on the Westwood Northern Boulevard corridor from Beekman Street to Boudinot Avenue, which includes planning, engineering, design, and public engagement; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate a grant of up to \$2,275,000 from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity program (ALN 20.933) awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x252339, “Westwood Northern Blvd Corridor Grant”; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit grant resources into capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x252339, “Westwood Northern Blvd Corridor Grant”; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to enter into any agreements necessary for the administration of these grant resources.

This Emergency Ordinance establishes capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x252339, “Westwood Northern Blvd Corridor Grant,” for a comprehensive transportation project on the Westwood Northern Boulevard corridor from Beekman Street to Boudinot Avenue, which includes planning, engineering, design, and public engagement. This Emergency Ordinance also authorizes the City Manager to accept and appropriate a grant of up to \$2,275,000 from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (“RAISE”) grant program (ALN 20.933) awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x252339, “Westwood Northern Blvd Corridor Grant.”

Ordinance No. 0048-2023 authorized the City Manager to apply for a RAISE grant of up to \$5,000,000 to conduct a study and create the preliminary design for a Complete Streets project, which includes improving the safety of City streets and enhancing pedestrian connections and safety. The City was awarded up to \$2,275,000 from the RAISE grant program for the Westwood Northern Boulevard Corridor project.

Accepting the RAISE grant does not require matching resources or new FTEs/full time equivalents.

This grant project to conduct a comprehensive transportation project and preliminary design is in accordance with the “Connect” goal to “[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability” and strategies to “[e]xpand options for non-automotive travel” and “[p]lan, design, and implement a safe and sustainable transportation system” as described on pages 129-138 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept grant resources and meet established deadlines.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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



Attachment