

ESTABLISHING new capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x262325, “Ohio River Trail Oasis ODOT Grant PID 122971,” to provide resources for the acquisition of rights-of-way for a 4.5-mile-long bike and pedestrian improvement project connecting Sawyer Point in the west and Carrel Street in the east, following the northern railroad track; **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate an Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) Pedestrian & Bicycle Special Solicitation grant of up to \$5,000,000 awarded through the ODOT Pedestrian & Bicycle Special Solicitation Grant Program to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x262325, “Ohio River Trail Oasis ODOT Grant PID 122971”; **AUTHORIZING** the Director of Finance to deposit grant resources into newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x262325, “Ohio River Trail Oasis ODOT Grant PID 122971”; and **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to do all things necessary and proper, including executing necessary agreements, to cooperate with the Director of ODOT to complete this project.

WHEREAS, a grant of up to \$5,000,000 is available from the Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) Pedestrian & Bicycle Special Solicitation Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the City would use the grant funds, if awarded, to acquire the portion of the railroad corridor right-of-way owned by the Southwestern Ohio Regional Transportation Authority (“SORTA”) as well as the north track right-of-way owned by the railroad; and

WHEREAS, acquiring these rights-of-way is essential to moving forward with construction of the Ohio River Trail/Oasis Trail, which is part of regional transportation infrastructure along the Ohio River that has been planned for over fifty years and is also part of the Cincinnati Riding and Walking Trail Network (CROWN); and

WHEREAS, separate grants and funding sources would cover the costs of construction of the trail segment, and Great Parks of Hamilton County would provide resources for project design; and

WHEREAS, this grant requires local matching resources of up to \$1,270,000, which would be available through the City’s Trail Development Coordination Agreement with SORTA if grant resources are awarded; and

WHEREAS, there are no new FTEs/full time equivalents associated with this grant; and

WHEREAS, acquiring rights-of-way to enable construction of the Oasis segment of the Ohio River Trail is in accordance with the “Connect” goal to “[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood livability” as well as the 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 129-133 and 135-137 of Plan Cincinnati (2012); now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That new capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x262325, “Ohio River Trail Oasis ODOT Grant PID 122971,” is established to provide resources for the acquisition of rights-of-way for a 4.5-mile-long bike and pedestrian improvement project connecting Sawyer Point in the west and Carrel Street in the east, following the northern railroad track.

Section 2. That the City Manager is authorized to apply for, accept, and appropriate an Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) Pedestrian & Bicycle Special Solicitation grant of up to \$5,000,000 awarded through the ODOT Pedestrian & Bicycle Special Solicitation Grant Program to newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x262325, “Ohio River Trail Oasis ODOT Grant PID 122971.”

Section 3. That the Director of Finance is authorized to deposit the grant resources into newly established capital improvement program project account no. 980x233x262325, “Ohio River Trail Oasis ODOT Grant PID 122971.”

Section 4. That the City Manager is authorized to do all things necessary and proper, including executing necessary agreements, to cooperate with the Director of ODOT to complete this project.

Section 5. That the proper City officials are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the terms of the grant and Sections 1 through 4.

Section 6. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: _____, 2025

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk