

December 8, 2021

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Paula Boggs Muething, City Manager

BBM

202103248

Subject: Emergency Ordinance – Cincinnati Police Department: Accept and Appropriate State Homeland Security Program Grants for the Greater Cincinnati Fusion Center (GCFC)

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to accept and appropriate the transfer of the remaining balances and the obligations associated with four (FY 2018, FY 2019, FY 2020, and FY 2021) Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, State Homeland Security Program - Law Enforcement grants (Assistance Listing #97.067) as pass through grants from the Ohio Emergency Management Agency for Ohio Region 6 in the total amount of up to \$548,048.39 from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for the purpose of deobligating the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office as the lead agency for the Greater Cincinnati Fusion Center and establishing new grant award agreements with the Cincinnati Police Department as the new lead agency; and **AUTHORIZING** the Finance Director to deposit the grant funds in the amounts of \$15,508.82 for the State Homeland Security Program - Law Enforcement to Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368, Project Account No. 18SHSP, \$107,060.57 for the State Homeland Security Program – Law Enforcement to Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368, Project Account No. 19SHSP, \$199,569 for the State Homeland Security Program – Law Enforcement to Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368, Project Account No. 20SHSP, and \$225,910 for the State Homeland Security Program – Law Enforcement to Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368, Project Account No. 21SHSP.

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to accept and appropriate the transfer of the remaining balances and the obligations associated with four (FY 2018, FY 2019, FY 2020, and FY 2021) Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), State Homeland Security Program - Law Enforcement grants (Assistance Listing #97.067) as pass through grants from the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) for Ohio Region 6 in the total amount of up to \$548,048.39 from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for the purpose of de-obligating the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office as the lead agency for the Greater Cincinnati Fusion Center (GCFC) and establishing new grant award agreements with the Cincinnati Police Department (CPD) as the new lead agency.

Additionally, the Emergency Ordinance should authorize the Finance Director to deposit the grant funds in the amounts of \$15,508.82 for the FY 2018 State Homeland

Security Program - Law Enforcement to Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368, Project Account No. 18SHSP, \$107,060.57 for the FY 2019 State Homeland Security Program – Law Enforcement to Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368, Project Account No. 19SHSP, \$199,569.00 for the FY 2020 State Homeland Security Program – Law Enforcement to Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368, Project Account No. 20SHSP, and \$225,910.00, for the FY 2021 State Homeland Security Program – Law Enforcement to Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368, Project Account No. 21SHSP.

CPD has agreed to become the lead agency for the GCFC in order to maintain continuity of operations. The GCFC serves to combat potential domestic extremism, violence, and terrorist activity as well as serving as a focal point for the receipt, analysis, gathering, and sharing of threat-related information between local, tribal, territorial, state, and federal partners, and private sector stakeholders.

Grants funds will be used by the CPD to operate the GCFC, which pays for intelligence and other related software, training, Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras and licenses, and various network and cybersecurity tools. Grant funds also cover the personnel costs of 1.0 FTE up to an amount of \$86,101 annually under the terms of the current grant who performs analyst duties for the GCFC. Any personnel and benefits costs above that amount will be absorbed by the existing CPD General Fund operating budget. The CPD will also absorb an additional 1.0 FTE who performs analyst duties for the GCFC, through the existing CPD General Fund operating budget.

Various equipment and resources acquired with grant funds will also transfer to the CPD including three vehicles (a 2014 Dodge Charger, a 2015 Dodge Charger, and a 2012 Ford Econoline Van), which must remain assigned to the GCFC.

This Emergency Ordinance is in accordance with the “Live” goal to “[c]reate a more livable community,” as described on page 156 and to “[s]upport our neighborhoods,” as described on page 171 and the “Collaborate” goal to “[i]mprove service efficiency” as described on pages 215-216 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the need for grant awards and funds to be transferred to the City effective January 1, 2022.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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

Attachment

