

October 11, 2021

**To:** Members of the Budget and Finance Committee  
**From:** Paula Boggs Muething, City Manager **202102927**  
**Subject: Emergency Ordinance – OES: USDA Composting Grant**

---

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

**AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant in the amount of up to \$90,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture (ALN 10.935) for a Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction Pilot Project entitled “Cincinnati Community Composting Collaborative” for the purpose of providing resources for travel, equipment, supplies, contractual services, and other expenses necessary for creating small-scale community composting and food waste drop-off sites for vegetative food waste in Cincinnati; and **AUTHORIZING** the Finance Director to deposit grant resources into Fund No. 436, “Environmental Studies.”

This Emergency Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$90,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for a Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction Pilot Project entitled “Cincinnati Community Composting Collaborative.” This grant will provide resources for travel, equipment, supplies, contractual services, and other expenses necessary for creating small-scale community composting and food waste drop off sites in Cincinnati. This Emergency Ordinance also authorizes the Finance Director to deposit grant resources into Fund No. 436, “Environmental Studies.”

The Cincinnati Community Composting Collaborative project will start in October 2021 and end on September 30, 2023. Approved expenses will be reimbursed by the USDA.

This grant requires a 25% local match. Approximately \$37,000 in matching resources are committed from outside organizations, with \$250 coming from the Office of Environment and Sustainability’s (OES) non-personnel operating budget for printing expenses. No new FTEs are associated with this grant.

OES has already applied for this grant. However, grant resources will not be accepted without City Council authorization.

The Cincinnati Community Composting Collaborative project is in accordance with the “Sustain” goal to “Become a healthier Cincinnati” and strategy to “Create a healthy environment and reduce energy consumption,” as described on pages 181 – 186 of Plan Cincinnati (2012). This project is also in accordance with the goal to “Reduce food waste by 20% by 2025,” as described on page 128 of the Green Cincinnati Plan (2018).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept the grant award for the Cincinnati Community Composting Collaborative project in order to begin work in October 2021.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

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



Attachment