

February 8, 2023

To: Mayor and Members of City Council 202300551

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

Subject: Ordinance – Health: Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Wastewater Project Grant

Attached is an Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to accept and appropriate a grant in the amount of up to \$350,000 from the Ohio Department of Health to support a project to evaluate the utility of SARS-CoV-2 wastewater monitoring on the subsewershed level, rather than the regional level; and **AUTHORIZING** the Finance Director to deposit the grant funds into Public Health Research Fund revenue account no. 350x8536.

This Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$350,000 from the Ohio Department of Health to support a project to evaluate the utility of SARS-CoV-2 wastewater monitoring on the subsewershed level, rather than the regional level. This Ordinance also authorizes the Finance Director to deposit the grant funds into Public Health Research Fund revenue account no. 350x8536.

This grant will provide resources for the Cincinnati Health Department (“CHD”) to assist ODH in monitoring subsewershed levels of SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater from four (4) local neighborhoods of different demographics, socioeconomic levels, SARS-CoV-2 vaccination rates, and Social Vulnerability Indexes (“SVI”).

The Cincinnati Health Department was not required to apply for this grant, and ODH informed CHD of the grant award on December 6, 2022. However, the grant will not be accepted without City Council approval.

There are no new FTEs associated with this grant and no local match is required.

Acceptance of the grant to support a project to evaluate the utility of SARS-CoV-2 wastewater monitoring on the subsewershed level, as opposed to the regional level, is in accordance with the “Sustain” goal to “[b]ecome a healthier Cincinnati” as described on pages 181-192 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The Administration recommends passage of this Ordinance.

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



Attachment