



Ryan James
Councilmember

Helping People Get Ahead

As I review the FY 2027 Budget Update, my focus remains the same as it was on the first day I took office: *helping people get ahead*. Cincinnati's recent growth and momentum are worth celebrating, but growth alone is not success. Success means residents can afford to remain in the neighborhoods they helped build. Success means families can weather unexpected financial challenges without facing displacement. Success means safe communities, strong neighborhood institutions, and economic opportunities that reach every corner of our city.

As we work to restore long-term fiscal stability, we must remain committed to both building Cincinnati's future and protecting the people and places that already make this city special. The priorities outlined below reflect that belief and will continue to guide my work throughout the budget process.

Investing in Affordability

While Cincinnati continues to grow, many residents are struggling to keep pace with the rising cost of living. An Affordability Fund would allow the City to make targeted investments that help families remain stable, housed, and connected to opportunity.

- \$1,000,000 Affordability Fund
 - \$500,000 Home Repair Services Program
 - \$250,000 Eviction Prevention Program

- \$250,000 Utility Relief Program

Creating Opportunity & Economic Mobility

Cincinnati's greatest asset is its people. Continued investment in youth opportunity, workforce development, and upskilling initiatives helps ensure residents have the tools, training, and connections needed to participate in and benefit from the city's growth.

- Youth Support
 - \$175,000 expansion to Youth 2 Work CCY Initiative
 - \$300,000 CRC Summer Camp
 - \$250,000 1001 Colors *formally known as ArtWorks*
 - \$150,000 Lighthouse Youth Services

 - Job Creation
 - \$200,000 Cincinnati Sports Commission
 - \$250,000 REDI Cincinnati
 - \$250,000 Start-Up Cincy Tech
- Workforce Development & Small Biz
 - \$350,000 Boys and Girls Club Avondale Workforce Development Center Capital
 - \$400,000 African American Chamber
 - \$150,000 MORTAR

Getting Back to The Basics

Maintaining core municipal services, infrastructure, and neighborhood support are fundamental responsibilities of local government.

Resident quality of life necessities like roadway maintenance, pothole repair, sidewalk improvements, neighborhood support and public space upkeep help to ensure that Cincinnatians feel safe and supported. In accordance with that priority, I recommend:

- \$300,000 Department of Public Services Advancing Rapid Pothole Repair & Road Resurfacing
- \$250,000 Safe and Clean administered through Keep Cincinnati Beautiful
- \$250,000 Boots on the Ground administered through Keep Cincinnati Beautiful
- \$75,000 Invest in Neighborhoods
- \$100,000 increase in Neighborhood Support Funds


