

# City of Cincinnati



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**Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney**  
*Councilmember*

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## MOTION

WE MOVE for City Council to allocate \$2,000,000 from the capital budget to preserve and rehabilitate the King Records building in Evanston.

  
Councilmember Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney

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## STATEMENT

King Records was founded by Syd Nathan in 1943 with the assistance of Howard Kessle. During its tenure, the record label left a large impact on the music industry and helped shape American popular culture, including placing 461 records of various genres on the charts. King Records served as a recording place for rock & roll, country, and rhythm & blues musicians; these artists include James Brown, Jackie Wilson, the 5 Royales, and Homer & Jethro.

In addition to being a musical trailblazer, King Records was also a leader in civil rights: It was one of Cincinnati's first integrated companies and the first integrated national record label at the executive level.

The funding will be used to restore the historic complex located on Brewster Avenue in Evanston, which was designated as a historic landmark by City Council in 2015.