

# City of Cincinnati



801 Plum Street, Suite 349  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Phone (513) 352-4610  
Email [david.mann@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:david.mann@cincinnati-oh.gov)  
Web [www.cincinnati-oh.gov](http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov)

**David S. Mann**  
*Councilmember*

February 24, 2021

## MOTION

With reference to the proposed charter amendment requiring the annual expenditure of \$50 million for affordable housing, but without identifying or authorizing sufficient new revenue sources for this large expenditure, we move for the following:

1. An opinion from the City Solicitor analyzing the proposal and identifying any issues as to its legality and enforceability if adopted.
2. A report from the City Manager as to the impact of the proposal on the city's ability to continue current basic and essential services.

  
Councilmember David Mann

## Statement:

**With all respect to the advocates of this proposal, they have avoided the essential requirement – proposing a new revenue source.**

The proposed charter amendment will have devastating impacts on our ability to deliver essential basic services. The \$50 million has to come from someplace and it just is not possible to take \$50 million away from what we currently do without reducing funding for policing, fire protection, ambulance services, street repair, waste collection, health clinics,

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parks, community recreation centers, and a long list of other vital city work, including my commitment to fund Human Services agencies. These reductions of funding to essential services will affect everyone but particularly the most fragile of our citizens who depend the most on these services.

The proposal is filled with serious legal issues as well. For instance, state law prohibits the proposed use of the monies from the lease or sale of the Cincinnati Southern Railway. State law also prohibits city taxation of stock options.

The opinion of the City Solicitor should also evaluate the likely success of a court challenge should the amendment be approved.

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