

**REPEALING** Ordinance No. 32-1997, which Council passed on January 29, 1997, in its entirety to ensure fairness and flexibility in booking policies and procedures for the Cincinnati Convention Center.

WHEREAS, on January 29, 1997, Council passed Ordinance No. 32-1997 to establish booking policies and procedures for the Cincinnati Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, Council adopted the policies and procedures partially in settlement of a lawsuit with Hart Productions, Inc., a local event producer that produced public expos hosted at the Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, Hart Productions, Inc. subsequently sold its local public expos to different purchasers and dissolved on May 1, 2024, and the settlement agreement therefore no longer binds the parties to the agreement; and

WHEREAS, the policies and procedures established in Ordinance No. 32-1997 have proved burdensome to administer for the City and its partners who book events at the Convention Center, which typically are booked five years or more in advance; and

WHEREAS, the City and Hamilton County have invested significant resources into updating and redesigning the Convention Center and the district surrounding it, including building a new Convention Center hotel, to attract conventions and drive tourism in Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, the Administration is considering new policies and procedures for booking events at the Convention Center that are flexible and fair to all event types and producers while being more efficient to administer than the current policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, repealing Ordinance No. 32-1997 is the first, necessary step in formulating new policies and procedures; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That Ordinance No. 37-1997, which Council passed on January 29, 1997, is repealed in its entirety.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

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Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk  
4902-8742-4597, v. 2