

City of Cincinnati



801 Plum Street, Suite 346A
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Phone (513) 352-5280
Email liz.keating@cincinnati-oh.gov
Web www.cincinnati-oh.gov

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Liz Keating
Councilmember

March 15, 2021

Motion

Our small businesses have suffered from the negative impacts of COVID-19 at a disproportionate level. The City of Cincinnati is to receive \$290 million from the American Rescue Plan, President Joe Biden's \$1.9 trillion coronavirus stimulus bill. **We MOVE** that the City Administration prepare a REPORT on how much money, of the \$290 million from the American Rescue Plan, that the city could feasibly set aside to aid the small business community in their COVID-19 recovery efforts. This approach needs to be a two-pronged effort that not only targets specific small businesses but also takes a blanket approach to focus on providing aid to neighborhood business districts. Therefore, **we further MOVE** that the City Administration prepare a REPORT on how much money of \$290 million from the American Rescue Plan, that the city could feasibly set aside to identify and aid the neighborhood business districts that have been most negatively impacted by the COVID-19 impact. **We further MOVE** that the City Administration prepare a REPORT on the eligibility requirements in which small businesses and neighborhood business districts would need to meet in order to qualify for relief through the city. These funds would be utilized to assist in the recovery from the losses our small businesses and communities have endured due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. We request these reports within 21 days to allocate enough time to consider these findings for the upcoming budget process.

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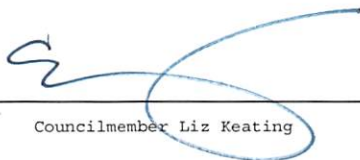
Liz Keating
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Statement

Last week President Joe Biden released the American Rescue Plan, a \$1.9 trillion coronavirus stimulus bill. The City of Cincinnati received \$290 million dollars from this Rescue Plan. The City is receiving this money to combat the impacts that COVID-19 has had on our community as a whole.

The small business community of Cincinnati and neighborhood business districts across the city have experienced incredible loss due to the pandemic; some small businesses have had to close their doors for months at a time and many have taken massive hits to their revenue stream. When these small businesses suffer, the neighborhood business districts they reside in also suffer. Many businesses have not recovered from the impact of COVID-19, and others risk not recovering at all. These small businesses are pillars to our neighborhoods and our city as a whole.

The bill passed by President Joe Biden allocated the \$290 million dollars to the City of Cincinnati to assist with COVID-19 recovery. It is imperative that we utilize a portion of these funds to assist the small businesses and neighborhood business districts across the city that have faced economic hardships due to the pandemic. We will only recover if they do.



Councilmember Liz Keating

