

June 9, 2021

To: Mayor and Members of City Council 202102175

From: Paula Boggs Muething, City Manager

Subject: **Emergency Ordinance – FY 2022 General Capital Budget**

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

APPROVING AND ADOPTING a Capital Improvement Program and Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, transferring and appropriating taxes and other revenue and existing funds for the purpose of carrying out certain parts of the Capital Improvement Program, and providing for the transfer and appropriation of notes to be issued and to be repaid from the lease proceeds of the Cincinnati Southern Railway to other parts of said Capital Improvement Program; **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and return to source Funds 757, 758, and 762 the sum of \$4,000,000 from various existing General Capital Budget capital improvement program project accounts in accordance with the attached Schedule of Transfer; **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and appropriation of the sum of \$1,500,000 to various existing General Capital Budget capital improvement program project accounts in accordance with the attached Schedule of Transfer; **AUTHORIZING** the transfer and appropriation of the sum of \$2,500,000, to be raised by the issuance of bonds by the City of Cincinnati, to various existing General Capital Budget capital improvement program project accounts in accordance with the attached Schedule of Transfer; Authorizing the transfer and appropriation of resources from various existing funds to various project accounts; and further **DECLARING** certain projects to be for a public purpose, all for the purpose of carrying out the Capital Improvement Program.

Approving and adopting the City Manager's Recommended FY 2022 General Capital Budget provides funding for the Fiscal Year 2022 General Capital Improvement Program Budget in the amount of \$83,640,000, effective July 1, 2021.

Sections 2 through 9 refer to the capital projects and their funding sources as outlined below:

1. Section 2 transfers and returns to source Funds 757, 758, and 762 the sum of \$4,000,000 from various existing General Capital Budget capital project accounts to provide resources for the FY 2022 Capital Improvement Program and various existing project accounts.

2. Section 3 transfers and appropriates the sum of \$1,500,000 to various existing project accounts.
3. Section 4 distributes \$2,500,000 from various FY 2022 bond resources to various existing capital project accounts.
4. Section 5 distributes \$2,500,000 in reprogrammed resources to new capital project accounts.
5. Section 6 distributes \$8,950,000 from income tax permanent improvement funds derived from the 0.15% portion of the City income tax.
6. Section 7 distributes \$49,050,000 from various FY 2022 bond resources.
7. Section 8 distributes \$22,890,000 from Southern Railway related resources.
8. Section 9 distributes \$250,000 from the Blue Ash Property sale proceeds.

This Emergency Ordinance also declares the following capital improvement program projects serve a public purpose: Affordable Housing Trust Funding – General Capital, Strategic Housing Initiatives Program (SHIP), Commercial & Industrial Public Improvements, Neighborhood Business District Improvements, Neighborhood Business Property Holding, Tax Incentive/Enterprise Zone, Hazard Abatement/Demolition Program, Retail/Commercial Opportunities, Community Development Focus District, Smale Riverfront Park, Convention Center Improvements, Findlay Market Improvements, and Community Facility Improvements – Art Museum. These projects will foster local improvements and investment and increase neighborhood vitality. Each project also has an estimated life or period of usefulness of five years or more.

There are several changes reflected in this Emergency Ordinance from the Recommended FY 2022 Capital Budget:

- Neighborhood Business District Improvements Program (NBDIP): The source of funding originally proposed in the City Manager’s Recommended Biennial Budget for Neighborhood Business District Public Improvements was Street Improvement Bonds. Use of this bond financing would require the scope of the NBDIP program to be limited to streetscape improvements and infrastructure owned by the City in the public right-of-way. In order to maximize the flexibility of the use of these funds, various existing project funding will be swapped so that cash capital resources will now be used to finance the standard Neighborhood Business District Improvements Program (NBDIP).
- Smale Riverfront Park: The capital improvement program project account, “Smale Riverfront Park” will be changed from the version originally included in the City Manager’s Recommended Biennial Budget to reflect a change in the scope of work

from stabilization of the riverbank at Smale Riverfront Park between the Roebling Bridge and Elm Street to a focus on construction of the extension on Lot 23.

The description of the project will be changed to the following: “This project will provide resources for construction of the Smale Riverfront Park extension on Lot 23 of the Banks.”

The purpose of the project will be changed to following: “The purpose of this project is to create an engaging public space at the Smale Riverfront Park that will encourage social interaction between different types of people.” In addition, the amount of \$100,000 previously reflected as part of the “Engineering” phase will be reflected as also included in the “Construction” phase for a total of \$1,500,000 allocation to the “Construction” phase.

Additionally, the source of funding for this project will be changed. Originally, this project was to be funded by property tax supported debt. It was determined that the project cannot be financed in this manner; so various existing project funding resources will be swapped to better align eligible resources with eligible uses, including Smale Riverfront Park.

The reason for the emergency is the need to have funding in place to carry out the City’s Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Improvement Program, which begins on July 1, 2021.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Christopher A. Bigham, Assistant City Manager
Karen Alder, Finance Director

Attachments