City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Agenda - Final

Budget and Finance Committee

Chairperson Reggie Harris
Vice Chair Jeff Cramerding
Councilmember Mark Jeffreys
Councilmember Scotty Johnson
Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Kearney
Councilmember Anna Albi
Councilmember Meeka Owens
Councilmember Seth Walsh
President Pro Tem Victoria Parks

Monday, March 11, 2024	5:30 PM	Roll Hill School, 2411 Baltimore Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45225

PUBLIC HEARING

PRESENTATIONS

Budget Basics and Leveraged Support

Dr. Andrew Dudas, Budget Director

Cincy On Track

Sheryl M.M. Long, City Manager

AGENDA

1. [202400728] COMMUNICATION, submitted by Councilmember Harris, from Dr. Andrew Dudas, Budget Director, regarding the Funding Programs Resource Sheets.

Sponsors: Harris

Attachments: [Competitive-Grant-Programs-Resource-List-w-Federal-Programs-City-2](#)

[Competitive-Grant-Programs-Resource-List-w-Federal-Programs-CDBG](#)

2. [202400708] PRESENTATION submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, dated 3/5/2024, regarding Budget Basics and Leveraged Support.

Sponsors: City Manager

Attachments: [Transmittal](#)

[Presentation](#)

3. [202400754] PRESENTATION, submitted by Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, regarding the FY25 Budget Engagement - Sale of the Cincinnati Southern Railway.

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Sponsors: City Manager

Attachments: [Transmittal](#)

[Presentation](#)

Program Name	Program Description	Program Eligibility	City Department	Program Contact (Name/Partner Org)	Program Contact Details (Email/Phone)	Program Website	Additional Comments	Application Date
Business / Neighborhood Support								
Business Improvement Program	This cost share beautification program is offered to registered Business Districts to assist in the care of flower pots within the street scape. Upon entering into a contract, the Park Board installs three seasonal flower displays and provides annual maintenance of the pots. Business Districts are responsible for providing the pots, soil, and half the cost of planting and annual maintenance (currently at $330 per pot, per year).	Program limited to registered Business Districts with the City of Cincinnati	Parks	Crystal Courtney, Parks Division of Natural Resources Division Manager and Ann Uhlman, Parks Division of Natural Resources, Greenspace District Crew Leader	crystal.courtney@cincinnati-oh.gov ann.uhlman@cincinnati-oh.gov (513) 861-9070	https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/cincyparks/natural-resources/greenspace/	Parks currently services 28+ districts with 3 annual container displays: Spring, Summer, Fall/Winter. Current waitlist.	Contracts initiated in October.
Neighborhood Catalytic Capital Investment Program	This program provides resources for catalytic projects within the City's neighborhoods. Projects funded through this program are evaluated based on their ability to create a catalytic impact to stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods.	For profit, not-for-profit, hybrid, and sole proprietorships are eligible.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Joseph Malek - Department of Community and Economic Development	Joseph.Malek@cincinnati-oh.gov	https://choosecincy.com/neighborhood-services/neighborhood-catalytic-capital-investment-rfp/	There are two application pools: 1) Early Action RFP targets transformative neighborhood project proposals that have not yet secured the majority of funding needed for construction. The maximum request is $100,000. 2) Project Implementation RFP targets transformative neighborhood project proposals that have secured the majority of funding needed for construction. There is no minimum or maximum dollar request limit for the Project Implementation category of funds.	Applications traditionally open in September and are due in October.
Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program (NBDIP)	NBDIP is an award-winning program that allocates annual funding for improvement projects that attract and retain small businesses in all Cincinnati neighborhood business districts (NBDs). It can directly benefit a business district with parking additions, façade improvements, or building renovations. It can also provide indirect benefits by funding streetscapes or wayfinding signage to make the district more appealing to customers and residents.	Must be a recognized community organization representing a recognized neighborhood business district. Annual guidelines are published on website on application requirements.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Bob Bertsch - Department of Community and Economic Development	Robert.Bertsch@cincinnati-oh.gov	https://choosecincy.com/neighborhood-services/neighborhood-business-district-improvement-program-nbdip/	Applications traditionally released in January.	Applications open and pre-applications due in Q3 of FY (January - March)
Operating Support for Community Development Corporations (CDCs)	This program provides operating support to build and strengthen capacity of eligible non-profit Community Development Corporations (CDCs). Eligible entities serve the region through developing affordable housing units, performing commercial and economic development, addressing public facilities and streetscape activities, violence prevention / reduction, neighborhood safety, and increasing community engagement in the neighborhoods.	Must be a recognized community development corporation within the City of Cincinnati. HOMEBASE as a service provider sets the operating support grant parameters through General Fund, CDBG and HOME	Department of Community and Economic Development	Bob Bertsch and Joseph Malek - Department of Community and Economic Development	Robert.Bertsch@cincinnati-oh.gov Joseph.Malek@cincinnati-oh.gov	https://www.homebasecincy.org/programs-and-services/operational-support-grant	Program Delivered by Homebase Cincinnati	Opens in Spring; available for CDC member organizations.
Environment								
Urban Agriculture	Mini-grants to support urban agriculture production and growing sites as well as local food aggregation distribution sites within the City and achieve the food goals and recommendations of the Green Cincinnati Plan.	Location of the growing site or distribution site must be within the City of Cincinnati. Applicants can be non-profit organizations or for-profit businesses and other entities may be considered.	Office of Environment and Sustainability	Robin Henderson - Office of Environment and Sustainability	robin.henderson@cincinnati-oh.gov (513) 352-5340	https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/oes/food/urban-agriculture/	Amount awarded varies year to year based on available funding. No funding for individuals.	Applications traditionally due in December.
GCP Seeds of Change Grant Program	The Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) Seeds of Change Grant Program aims to help communities take steps toward a more sustainable and equitable future. The program encourages residents and partners to initiate projects that prioritize the environment and resilience in Cincinnati. The focus is on supporting resident-driven solutions that help those most affected by climate change in the city and bring the GCP to life in new ways.	1) Impact within the city limits; 2) Nonprofit status or fiscal sponsor in place; 3) Grassroots/Community-based effort with budget under $500k; 4) Project must be able to be completed within 6 months of award.	Office of Environment and Sustainability	Molly Robertshaw - OES	molly.robertshaw@cincinnati-oh.gov	Coming very soon!	The city is accepting applications for projects that range from $1,000 to $20,000. The project must support the environment and resilience of one or more Cincinnati neighborhoods based on the interests and needs of residents. Ideally, the proposed project aligns with at least one of the strategies and priority actions of the GCP. The types of projects that could align well include but are not limited to: trees, native plants, soil, community gardens, fresh food access points, food waste diversion, home energy efficiency kits, green space improvements, greening parking lots, reflective asphalt sealants, rain gardens, bioswales, green roofs, non-car transportation options, air quality monitors, landslide prevention, flood mitigation, cooling solutions, trash, recycling, or compost containers, and outreach and education materials.	March 30, 2024; frequency to be determined thereafter
Housing								
Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)	The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) loan program provides residential developers with long-term, low, fixed-rate financing for transformative housing projects that will make positive, visible impacts on our communities.	Varies year-to-year based on available resources. See NOFA Guidelines on website for applicable year.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Roy Hackworth - Department of Community and Economic Development	Roy.Hackworth@cincinnati-oh.gov	https://choosecincy.com/real-estate-development/notice-of-funding-availability/	Applications traditionally released in April	Applications traditionally open in April and due in June.
Essential Services	This program provides funds to rental property owners to remediate the failure of essential building facilities, such as heat, electrical, and fire safety.	Process is being defined	Department of Buildings and Inspections				Focus on Safe and Affordable Housing, Housing Preservation, and Public Safety; Newly funded program for FY 2024	Open on an ongoing basis.
Small Scale Rental Rehab Loan Program	The scope of this program is still being developed.	Process is being defined	Department of Buildings and Inspections				Newly Funded program for FY 2024	
Human Services								
Boots on the Ground Fund	To strengthen the capacity of small, community-based organizations. To create more equitable solutions by prioritizing inclusion, community voice, and engagement with leaders of color and those with lived experience.	Is classified as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization or collaborates with and utilizes a fiscal agent that is specifically identified in the application. Has an annual operating budget of less than $1 million. Has a principal place of business within and serves the needs of neighborhoods within the geographic boundaries of the City of Cincinnati. Demonstrates service to one or more neighborhoods within the geographic boundaries of the City of Cincinnati in select areas.	City Manager's Office	Adison Nelson - The Greater Cincinnati Foundation	adison.nelson@gcfdn.org (513) 768-6108	https://www.gcfdn.org/rfp/	Priorities include access to affordable, healthy food, access to health care & public health, Gun violence & gang prevention, Homelessness prevention & access to affordable housing, Mental Health, behavioral health & substance use services, Workforce development, Youth development.	RFP opens in CY Q4 (October, November, December)
Community Preventive Education Grant	CPD partners with local non-profit organizations that will provide support and encourage community-based drug and alcohol preventative education programs.	Organization/program needs to have a footprint within the City of Cincinnati.	Police	Josh Drake - Police Finance Management	CPDFiscal@cincinnati-oh.gov or joshua.drake@cincinnati-oh.gov (513) 352-2586	https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/police/community-involvement/community-preventive-education-program/	Applications are accepted twice every year: once in April and once in October.	Applications are accepted twice a year: April & October.
Human Services Fund	Through priority initiatives, the City seeks to partner with local organizations to collaboratively use their data to better understand the problems facing Cincinnati residents. By introducing specific, measurable priorities and leveraging city leadership and departmental resources, we can build a stronger and healthier City, together.	Agencies must be 501(c)(3) organizations compliant with licensing, accreditation, and legal requirements. Non-profit organizations do not need to be physically located in the City of Cincinnati, but City of Cincinnati Human Services funds may only be used to support city residents.	City Manager's Office	Amy Weber - United Way of Greater Cincinnati	amy.weber@uwgc.org (513) 762-7164	https://www.uwgc.org/for-nonprofits/funding-opportunities	Evaluation criteria: demonstrates a strong collaboration of multiple community partners or stakeholders; demonstrates the capacity to implement the proposed project within the time period and proposed budget; and demonstrates the experience and expertise to implement the proposed services and provide culturally responsive services to targeted communities (lived experience, representation of staff in comparison to the community, and professional education, experience, expertise)	For FY 2024-2025, 68 agencies received funding in 3 priority service areas identified by Council: Workforce initiatives (25), Youth Gun Violence Prevention (24), and Housing Stability (19). The Impact Award was awarded to Strategies to End Homelessness and 8 subgrantees.
Leveraged Support Application Process	The City of Cincinnati provides financial support to specific programs or for the general operations of organizations that perform a service benefiting Cincinnati residents. Organizations are expected to leverage funding from the City with additional financial resources – either raised from other governmental or private entities or as earned revenue from providing a service.	The applicant must be an existing organization that has at minimum three years of audited financial statements or federal tax returns and must not be debarred from contracting or subcontracting with the City.	City Manager's Office	Tonia Smith - City Manager's Office	tonia.smith@cincinnati-oh.gov (513) 352-5361	https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/budget/leveraged-support/	The City Manager will evaluate recommendations based on the following criteria: 1. Leverage – The extent that the City's funds are being leveraged by other public or private sources generated by the applicant. The higher the amount of City funding requested, the higher the expectation will be for leveraging. 2. Impact – The historic and projected impact of the applicant's services, the applicant's demonstrated capacity to timely and effectively deliver the services, and the efficiency in use of funds to maximize funding committed to program delivery. 3. Strategic Goal Alignment – The extent that the applicant's provided services align with the strategic goals of the City Administration and Elected Officials in addressing identified public needs or other gaps in services needed by City residents.	Annual application to open Q3 of FY (January through March)
Safety/Blight Removal								
Safe and Clean	Support and encourage community-based efforts to improve neighborhood safety, eliminate blight, and increase livability through problem solving projects.	Grants applications will be accepted from a wide variety of community groups and organizations for one-time costs associated with projects that improve safety and livability of a community. Full eligibility guidelines available on website.	City Manager's Office	Ty Wesselkamper - Keep Cincinnati Beautiful	ty@keepcincinnatibeautiful.org	https://www.keepcincinnatibeautiful.org/resources/safe-and-clean/	Quarterly application windows.	Quarterly application windows (January, May, September)

Program Name	Program Description	City Department	Program Contact (Name/Partner Org)	Program Contact Details (Email/Phone)	Additional Comments	Application Date
Economic Development						
Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment Program	The Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment Program, formerly known as The Strategic Program for Urban Redevelopment (SPUR) facilitates catalytic redevelopment of abandoned, vacant, or underutilized industrial and commercial sites throughout the City. The program focuses on addressing environmental contamination and obstacles preventing development of blighted areas, specifically in areas with imminent threats to human health and the environment. The funds are utilized for environmental assessments, contamination remediation, public improvements, infrastructure improvements, acquisition, demolition, stabilization, construction, reconstruction, installation of public works and facilities, prevent and mitigate the spread of environmental contamination and / or risk to human health, and other related activities to facilitate redevelopment.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Bob Bertsch - Department of Community and Economic Development	Robert.Bertsch@cincinnati-oh.gov	Project Selection / Award Done on a Case by Case Basis	Ongoing - Rolling Basis for projects
Findlay Market Operating Support	Project funds increase the Corporation for Findlay Market's capacity to carry out community revitalization and economic development activities both at the Market and in the surrounding area. Included in this are costs related to supporting market promotion and events to increase the vibrancy of the market. Findlay Market is located in a low to moderate income area in the City's urban core.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Clint McIntosh - Department of Community and Economic Development	clinton.mcintosh@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by Corporation for Findlay Market	N/A - Funding direct to Findlay Market (not open for other parties)
Operating Support for Community Development Corporations (CDCs)	This program provides operating support to build and strengthen capacity of eligible non-profit Community Development Corporations (CDCs). Eligible entities serve the region through developing affordable housing units, performing commercial and economic development, addressing public facilities and streetscape activities, violence prevention / reduction, neighborhood safety, and increasing community engagement in the neighborhoods.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Bob Bertsch and Joseph Malek - Department of Community and Economic Development	Robert.Bertsch@cincinnati-oh.gov Joseph.Malek@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by Homebase Cincinnati	Opens in Spring; available for CDC member organizations.
Small Business Services	The Small Business Services Program includes technical assistance for start-ups and growth needs of micro-enterprises and small businesses. Areas of assistance include capacity development, business education and coaching, entrepreneurial training, incubation and technical assistance, loan packaging, accounting services, legal services, appraisals, environmental assessments, and inventory control audits. The program includes a revolving loan program to fill financing gaps for small to mid-sized businesses that create and/or retain jobs for low to moderate-income individuals as well as funds for redevelopment activities. The program also includes financial assistance for start-up small businesses and businesses with established need.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Eric Denson - Department of Community and Economic Development	Eric.Denson@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by GCMI	GCMI accepts clients and loan applications on a rolling basis.
Homelessness / Eviction Prevention						
Emergency Mortgage Assistance	The Emergency Mortgage Assistance program provides in-depth foreclosure prevention counseling, negotiations with mortgage companies, legal assistance and case management to prevent foreclosure. When homeowners are facing foreclosure due to job loss, illness, death of the primary wage earner, or other circumstances beyond their control, the program may provide up to three months of mortgage payments to bring their loans current.	City Manager's Office - Office of Human Services	Deanna White	Deanna.White@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by Legal Aid Services	Applicants call Legal Aid directly; available on an ongoing basis
Tenant Representation	The Tenant Representation Program provides legal representation for low to moderate-income tenants. The program prevents homelessness by stopping unlawful evictions, corrects illegal lockouts and utility shutoffs, and requires property owners to complete repairs to make rental units decent, safe, and sanitary. The project also prevents retaliation against tenants who contact the City about code violations.	City Manager's Office - Office of Human Services	Deanna White	Deanna.White@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by Legal Aid Services	Applicants call Legal Aid directly, Ongoing basis
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	ESG funds the operation of emergency shelter facilities as well as essential services for the residences. A current maximum of 60% the annual ESG entitlement allocation may be utilized for shelter funds. ESG Rapid Re-Housing activities will provide Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services and short and medium-term Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA).	City Manager's Office - Office of Human Services	Morgan Sutter and Deanna White - City Manager's Office	Morgan.Sutter@cincinnati-oh.gov and Deanna.White@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Homelessness	Funds are issued to STEH directly to distribute to providers participating in the Prince of Peace funding process. Typically due in December.

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Program Name	Program Description	City Department	Program Contact (Name/Partner Org)	Program Contact Details (Email/Phone)	Additional Comments	Application Date
HOPWA Services and Support	HOPWA funds will provide housing assistance through Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance (STRMU), Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), and permanent housing placement. HOPWA-funded TBRA services to individuals with HIV/AIDS that require assistance with rent or mortgage expenses. HOPWA funds will also be used to support the operation of Caracole's two transitional living facilities persons displaced by HIV/AIDS. Costs will include utilities, phone, insurance, regular maintenance, supplies and residential operating staff. In addition, HOPWA funding will be used to support the cost of nursing and personal care, case management, and meals for HIV/AIDS clients. Services are provided by three sponsor agencies, Center for Respite Care, Northern Kentucky Health Independent District, and Caracole.	City Manager's Office - Office of Human Services	Morgan Sutter and Deanna White - City Manager's Office	Morgan.Sutter@cincinnati-oh.gov and Deanna.White@cincinnati-oh.gov	Funding for Persons / Housing Assistance to Persons Living with AIDS and HIV	Funds are issued to STEH directly to distribute to providers participating in the HOPWA funding process. Typically due in December.
Housing						
American Dream Downpayment Initiative	The American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI) program funds down payment assistance for the purchase of single-family owner-occupied housing by first-time, eligible low to moderate income homebuyers or eligible homebuyers that have not owned property in the last three years. ADDI funds are not to exceed $14,999. ADDI funds are awarded as a five-year non-interest-bearing deferred loan payment with a five-year residency requirement. All or a portion of the funds will be recaptured in the event a homeowner moves from the residence, sells or transfers ownership during the five-year residency period. All ADDI recipients are required to take a HUD-approved homebuyer counseling course in advance of receiving this assistance.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Lawrence Taylor - Department of Community and Economic Development	Lawrence.Taylor@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Affordable Housing, Homebuyer Assistance, and Direct Financial Assistance	Ongoing - Rolling Basis for homebuyers
CHDO Development Projects	HUD requires that at least 15% of the federal HOME allocation be used in development projects in partnership with Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). These funds will be used for both rental and homeowner projects, new construction and renovations, with certified CHDOs. CHDOs are required to re-certify their designation bi-annually.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Roy Hackworth - Department of Community and Economic Development	Roy.Hackworth@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Affordable Housing Projects with Certain Designated Non-Profit Entities	Funding direct to Homebase, which they offer through a funding program. Typically in Spring; available for CDC member organizations.
Fair Housing Services	Housing Opportunities Made Equal (H.O.M.E.), the area's local fair housing agency, administers this program to promote equal housing opportunities for all home seekers regardless of race, sex, color, nationality, religion, handicap, Appalachian status, marital status, sexual orientation, military, gender identity, ancestry, gender identity, transgender status, or familial status and to reduce unlawful discrimination in housing and increase integration throughout Cincinnati's neighborhoods. The program does complaint intake, investigation, counseling, and files legal complaints against persons, firms, or organizations suspected of discrimination in housing.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Kira Palmer - Department of Community and Economic Development	kira.palmer@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by Housing Opportunities Made Equal	Applications open on an ongoing basis through H.O.M.E. Intake Coordinators
Family Re-Housing Assistance	This project allows the City of Cincinnati to pay the first month's rent, security deposit, and moving expenses for persons moving to decent, safe and sanitary housing who have been displaced by code enforcement and/or the hazards of lead-based paint. City staff takes applications and provides vacancy and management company lists to clients.	Department of Buildings and Inspections	Helen Hill - Department of Buildings and Inspections	helen.hill@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Housing Stability / Financial Assistance	Open on an ongoing basis.
Homeowner Assistance Repairs and Building Order Remission	Homeowner Assistance Repairs and Building Order Remission (HARBOR). The program will provide financial assistance to low-income, owner-occupied homeowners that receive code violations on their property.	Department of Buildings and Inspections	Helen Hill - Department of Buildings and Inspections	helen.hill@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Safe and Affordable Housing, Housing Preservation, and Public Safety	Open on an ongoing basis.
Housing Repair Services	The Housing Repair Services Program provides grants for emergency and critical repairs to very low-income homeowners. Emergency services are limited to two emergencies per household per year. Critical repairs are those needed for the safety of the property owner. This program will also address code violations for low-income homeowners. In addition to addressing housing repairs for homeowners, this program addresses the mobility needs of disabled and elderly renters and owner-occupied units and will address healthy home issues that may be causing health effects of the occupants.	Department of Buildings and Inspections	Helen Hill - Department of Buildings and Inspections	helen.hill@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by People Working Cooperatively and MAX Construction Group	Applicants should go directly to PWC or MCG for assistance; available on an ongoing basis.

Program Name	Program Description	City Department	Program Contact (Name/Partner Org)	Program Contact Details (Email/Phone)	Additional Comments	Application Date
Lead Hazard Testing Program	Project funds are utilized for the code enforcement activities in eligible census tracts. Lead poisoning reduces IQ, increases tendencies of violence and delinquent behavior, affects a child's ability to learn, and is directly related to lower educational achievement. Children with lead poisoning have reduced lifetime earning potential and are more likely to live in poverty. Properties with Board of Health orders for lead hazard remediation are referred to the HUD Lead Paint Hazard Control Grant program when available.	City Manager's Office	Morgan Sutter - City Manager's Office	Morgan.Sutter@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Housing and Public Health	N/A - distributed through Health Department's pursuit of code violations due to lead orders
Blight						
Concentrated Code Enforcement	Inspections of homes and businesses are conducted in low to moderate census tracts throughout the city by the City of Cincinnati Department of Buildings and Inspections' code enforcement inspectors. Corrections achieved through Concentrated Code Enforcement (CCE) include repairing porches, roofs, windows, and siding, painting, and removal of dilapidated garages, fences and sheds. Owners receiving orders are informed of funding availability through the Department of Community and Economic Development to correct violations. Targeted areas are identified through an analysis of building code violations, vacant buildings, disorder and drug calls, drug arrests, as well as incidence of graffiti, junk autos, litter and weeds. Integrated services include concentrating building code enforcement, identifying crime hot spots, cleaning up streets, sidewalks, and vacant lots, beautifying landscapes, streetscapes and public right of way, and engaging property owners and residents to create and sustain a more livable neighborhood.	Department of Buildings and Inspections	Ed Cunningham - Department of Buildings and Inspections	Edward.Cunningham@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Blight and Nuisance Abatement, Public Health and Safety	N/A - Reactionary program available through B&I as a response to reported issues.
Hazard Abatement Program	The mission of the Hazard Abatement Program is to preserve public health, safety, and welfare through demolition or barricading of blighted buildings. The program demolishes condemned buildings after normal code enforcement activities have been exhausted. The program also secures vacant abandoned buildings against entry.	Department of Buildings and Inspections	Ed Cunningham - Department of Buildings and Inspections	Edward.Cunningham@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Blight and Nuisance Abatement, Public Health and Safety	N/A - Reactionary program available through B&I as a response to reported issues.
Historic Stabilization of Structures	The Historic Stabilization of Structures Program abates public nuisance conditions and stabilizes properties, including historic buildings. This program is designed to maintain the public health, safety, and welfare while at the same time preserving the structures for potential future rehabilitation.	Department of Buildings and Inspections	Ed Cunningham - Department of Buildings and Inspections	Edward.Cunningham@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Blight and Nuisance Abatement, Public Health and Safety	N/A - Reactionary program available through B&I as a response to reported issues.
Public Service						
Hand Up Initiative	The Hand Up Initiative provides job readiness and job training to transition Cincinnatians out of poverty. The program will focus on residents in Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs). The Hand Up Initiative recipients are tasked with providing individuals with wrap-around services for the purpose of removing barriers to employment. Those services include, but are not limited to, transportation, childcare, and employment counseling. Following completion of the Hand Up curriculum, participants receive employment counseling and coaching to facilitate appropriate job placement.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Katrina Gragston - Department of Community and Economic Development	Katrina.Gragston@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by Multiple Entities: Urban League, Cincinnati Works, IKRON, and Mercy Neighborhood Ministries	Varies; Each partner organization has separate intake process on a rolling basis. Contact agency directly.
Workforce Development						
Youth and Young Adult Employment Program	The Youth and Young Adult Employment Program trains youth and young adults ages 14 to 24 in the areas of workplace etiquette and basic work skills by utilizing workshops, presentations, and on-the-job experiences. The program provides recipients with opportunities to explore their interests and career options in public, nonprofit, and private organizations.	Cincinnati Recreation Commission	Tim Heyl - Cincinnati Recreation Commission	Tim.Heyl@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Workforce Development and Youth Services	Youth applications posted January - March. Community Partners open from January - June.

Attached is the presentation on Budget Basics and Leveraged Support for the Budget and Finance Committee Special Meeting on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 5:30 PM.

cc: Natasha S. Hampton, Assistant City Manager
        Virginia Tallent, Assistant City Manager
        William "Billy" Weber, Assistant City Manager

FY 2025 Budget Update:
Budget Policy Motion Goals & Priorities

Budget Basics and Leveraged Support Funding Process

Introductions

- Karen Alder, Finance Director / Monica Morton, Assistant Finance Director

- Andrew Dudas, Budget Director

- Purpose of Meeting:
  - Educate you on the budget process
  - Educate you on the leveraged support funding process
  - This is YOUR meeting – please ask questions!

FY 2024 Strategic Priorities
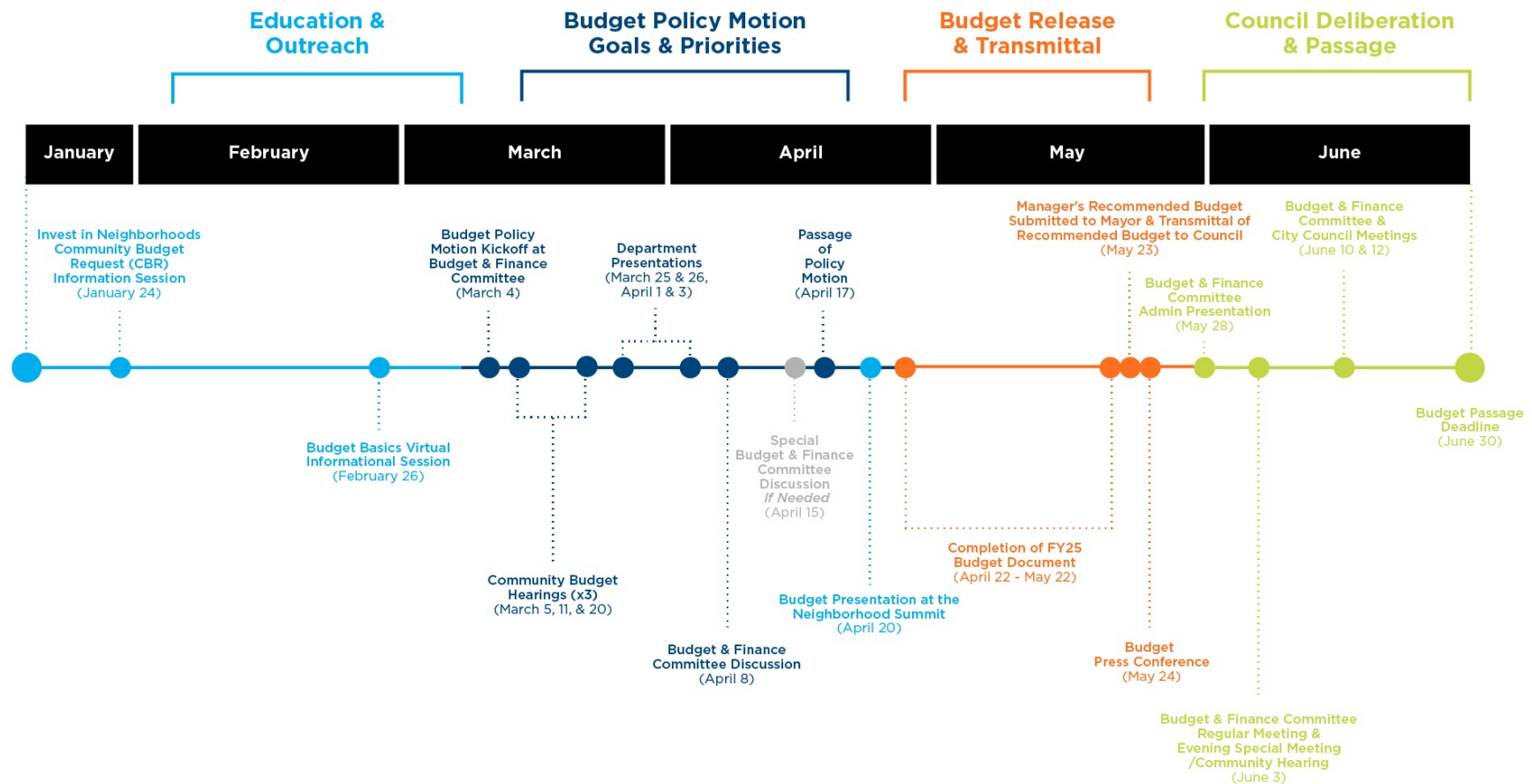
- PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH
- GROWING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES
- THRIVING NEIGHBORHOODS
- FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY
- EXCELLENT & EQUITABLE SERVICE DELIVERY

city of CINCINNATI

Education & Outreach

Budget Policy Motion Goals & Priorities

Budget Release & Transmittal

Council Deliberation & Passage

January	February	March	April	May	June

Invest in Neighborhoods Community Budget Request (CBR) Information Session
(January 24)

Budget Policy Motion Kickoff at Budget & Finance Committee
(March 4)

Department Presentations
(March 25 & 26, April 1 & 3)

Passage of Policy Motion
(April 17)

Manager's Recommended Budget Submitted to Mayor & Transmittal of Recommended Budget to Council
(May 23)

Budget & Finance Committee & City Council Meetings
(June 10 & 12)

Budget & Finance Committee Admin Presentation
(May 28)

Budget Basics Virtual Informational Session
(February 26)

Special Budget & Finance Committee Discussion
If Needed
(April 15)

Budget Passage Deadline
(June 30)

Completion of FY25 Budget Document
(April 22 - May 22)

Community Budget Hearings (x3)
(March 5, 11, & 20)

Budget Presentation at the Neighborhood Summit
(April 20)

Budget Press Conference
(May 24)

Budget & Finance Committee Discussion
(April 8)

Budget & Finance Committee Regular Meeting & Evening Special Meeting /Community Hearing
(June 3)

city of CINCINNATI

Overall Budget Strategy

- **Pass a structurally balanced budget**
  - Revenues ≥ Expenditures

- **Expand the tax base**
  - Economic development and neighborhood investment are focal points
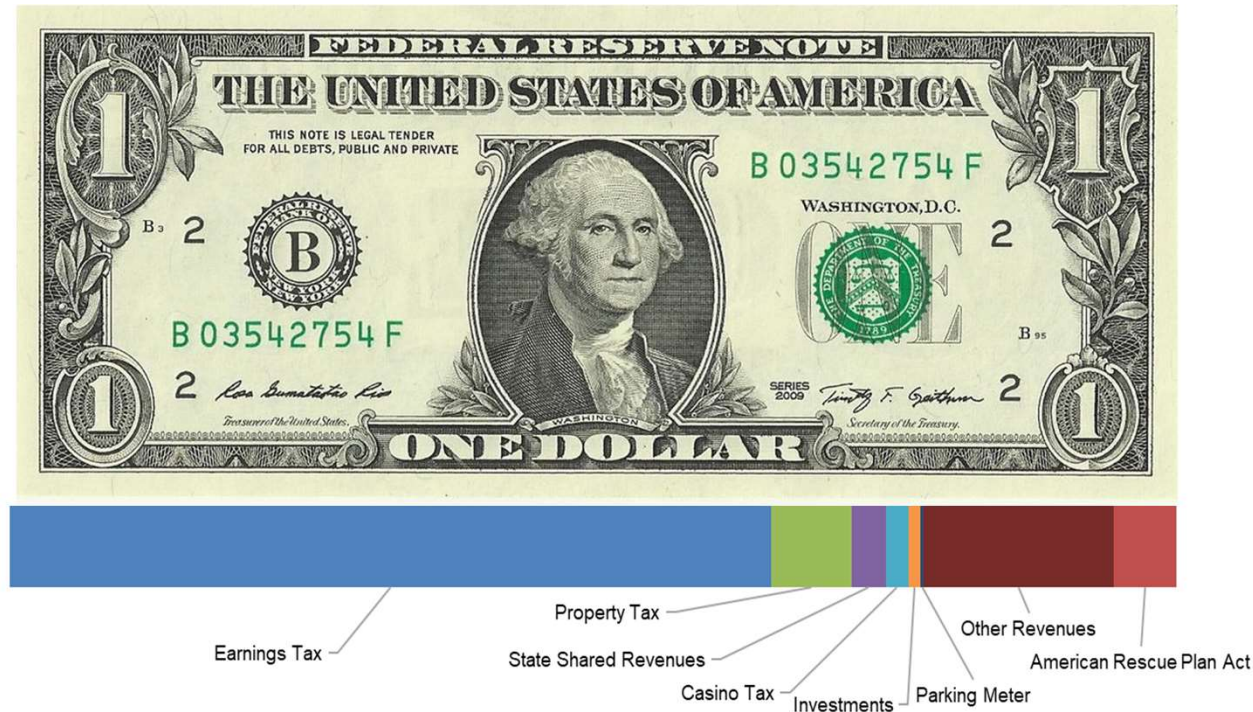 - Recruit and retain jobs

Operating Budget

Approved FY 2024 All Funds Budget

($ in Millions)	Approved FY 2022	Approved FY 2023 Update	Approved FY 2024	From Approved FY 2023 Update		Approved FY 2025
				$ Change	% Change	
Operating Budget						
General Fund(1)(2)	$440.6	$470.5	$504.1	$33.6	7.1%	$503.8
Restricted Funds	$770.9	$732.1	$782.5	$50.4	6.9%	$778.7
Subtotal Operating Budget	$1,211.5	$1,202.6	$1,286.6	$84.0	7.0%	$1,282.5
Capital Budget						
General Capital Budget	$85.1	$127.1	$76.5	-$50.6	-39.8%	$63.9
Restricted Funds Capital	$184.9	$160.2	$196.1	$35.9	22.4%	$364.8
Special Revenue/Matching Capital	$39.7	$17.5	$37.5	$20.0	114.3%	$167.8
Subtotal Capital Budget	$309.6	$304.7	$310.1	$5.4	1.8%	$596.5
Total All Funds Budget	**$1,521.1**	**$1,507.3**	**$1,596.7**	**$89.4**	**5.9%**	**$1,879.0**

(1)The Approved FY 2022 and Approved FY 2023 Update General Fund amounts do not include $16.7 million and $18.9 million respectively in Health Department funding that is transferred to the Cincinnati Health District Restricted Fund. Additionally, the Approved FY 2023 Update does not include $67.3 million in funding that is transferred to the General Capital Budget or $3.6 million transferred out for debt service.

(2)The Approved FY 2024 and FY 2025 General Fund Budget amount does not include $20.5 million and $20.9 million respectively in Health Department funding that is transferred to the Cincinnati Health District Restricted Fund. Additionally, the Approved FY 2024 and FY 2025 General Fund Budget amount does not include $4.4 million in transfers out for debt service and to other funds. The Approved FY 2024 General Fund Budget amount does not include $2.1 million in transfers out to the balance sheet reserve account for Financial Freedom Initiatives and $100,000 in transfers out to the General Capital Budget for lighting of the Wasson Way Trail.
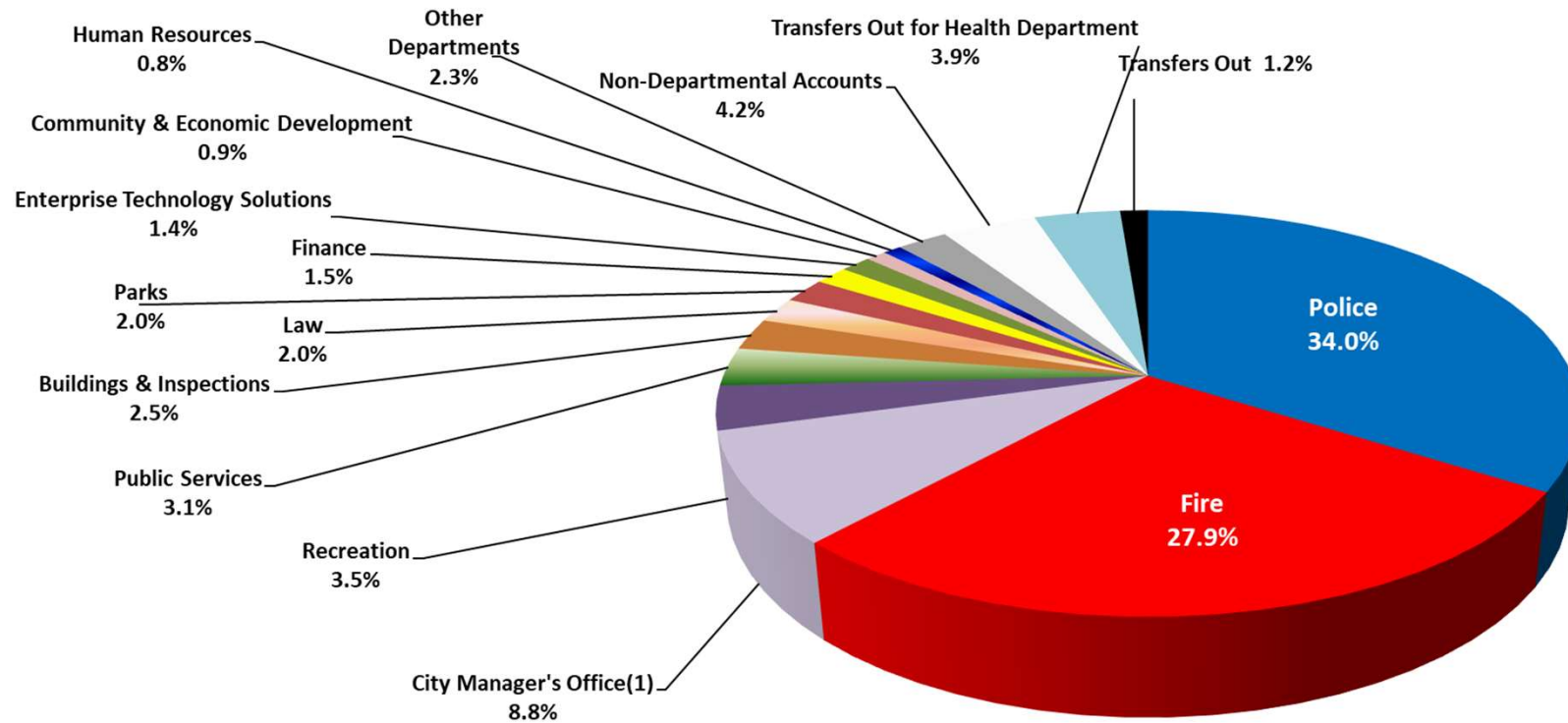
FY 2024 General Fund Revenue

Earnings Tax
Property Tax
State Shared Revenues
Casino Tax
Investments
Parking Meter
Other Revenues
American Rescue Plan Act

- General Fund Revenues of $502.9 million in FY 2024 which includes $4.0 million in transfers in.

- An additional $28.2 million of one-time American Rescue Plan dollars is included.

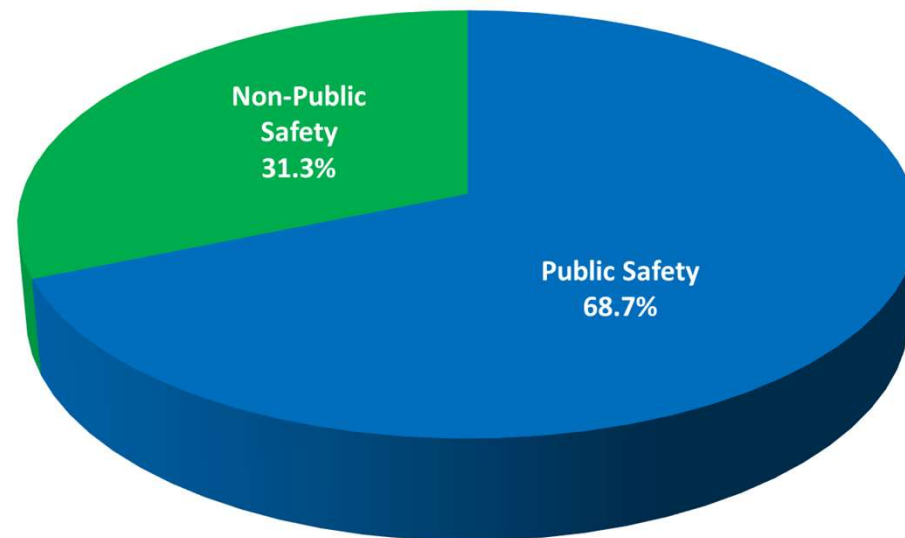# OPERATING BUDGET
General Fund Expenditures – $531.2 million

Human Resources 0.8%
Community & Economic Development 0.9%
Enterprise Technology Solutions 1.4%
Finance 1.5%
Parks 2.0%
Law 2.0%
Buildings & Inspections 2.5%
Public Services 3.1%
Recreation 3.5%
City Manager's Office(1) 8.8%
Other Departments 2.3%
Non-Departmental Accounts 4.2%
Transfers Out for Health Department 3.9%
Transfers Out 1.2%
Police 34.0%
Fire 27.9%

*Other Departments include Transportation and Engineering, City Council, City Planning & Engagement, Economic Inclusion, Citizen Complaint Authority, Office of the Mayor, and Clerk of Council.
(1) CMO includes the Emergency Communications Center

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OPERATING BUDGET

General Fund Expenditures*

Where does the money go?
Public Safety and Non-Public Safety

*The Transfer Out for the Health Department is reflected here based on the budgeted expenses for the Health Department within these categories. Non-Departmental Accounts are not included.

OPERATING BUDGET

General Fund Expenditures*
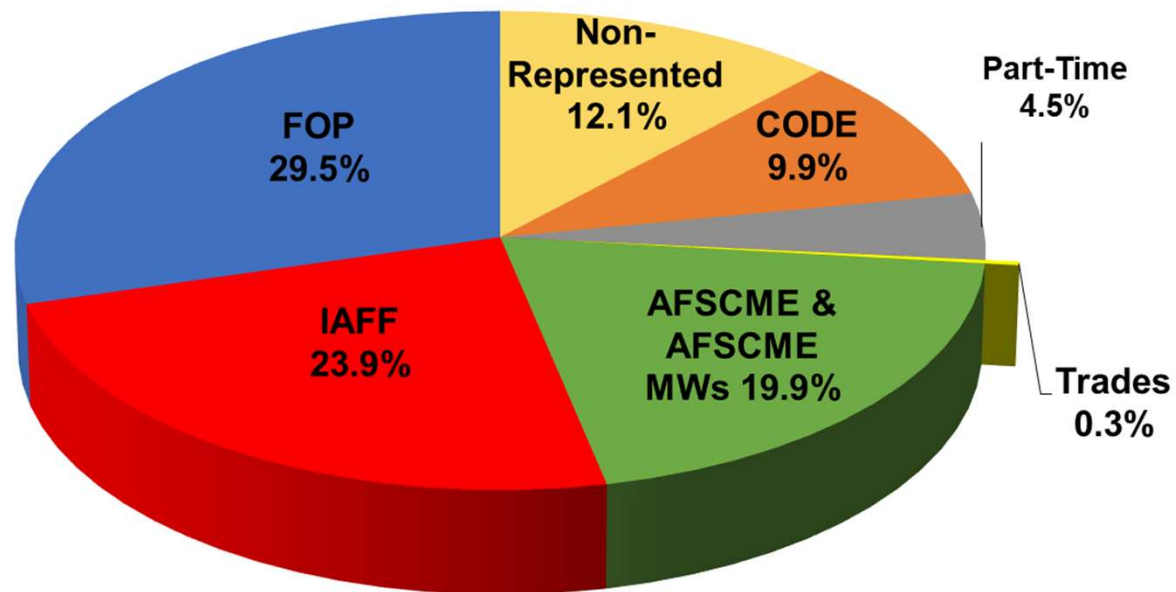
Where does the money go?
Personnel and Non-Personnel
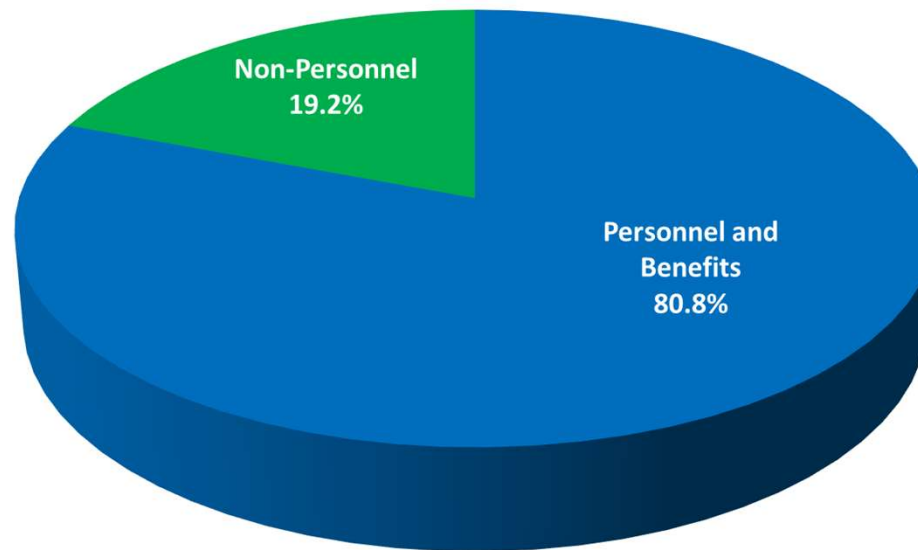
*The Transfer Out for the Health Department is reflected here based on the budgeted expenses for the Health Department within these categories.

OPERATING BUDGET

General Fund Staffing*

Personnel expenses represent 80.8% of the General Fund Budget
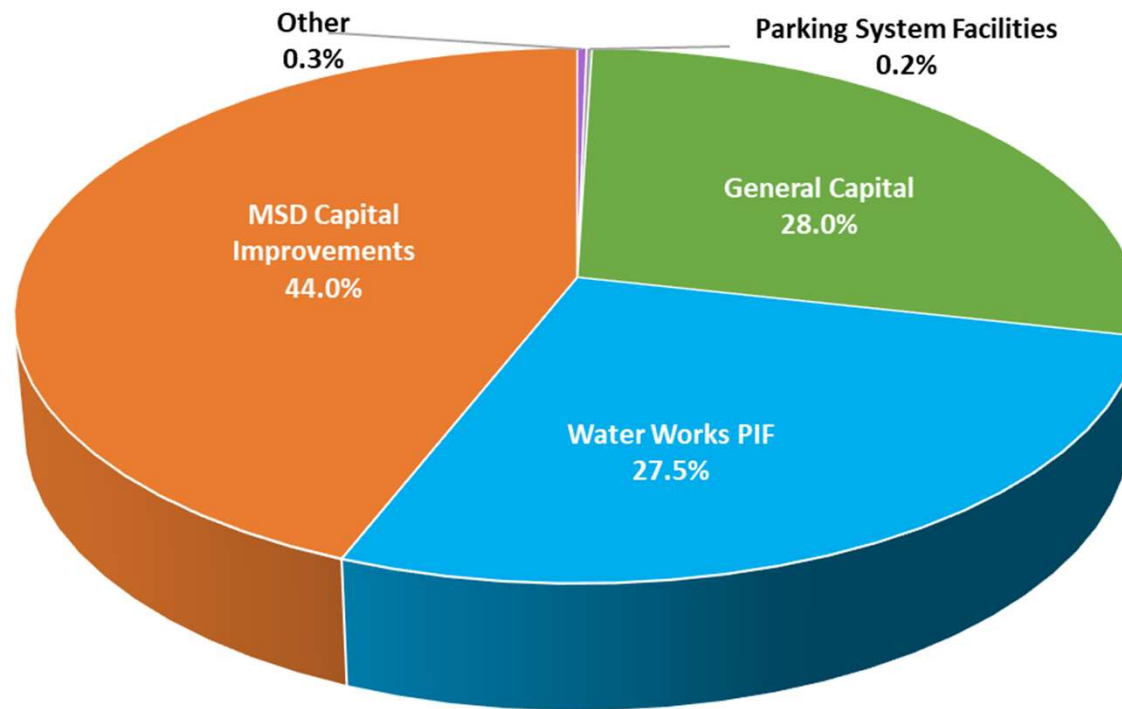with 83.4% of employees represented by labor contracts.

*The Health Department FTEs budgeted as part of the Transfer Out are included within these categories.

Capital Budget

CAPITAL BUDGET

Approved FY 2024 All Funds Capital Budget = $310.1 million

"Other" combines the FY 2024 Approved Capital Budget amount for the following funds: Telecommunications Services, General Aviation, Downtown South/Riverfront Equivalent, and Special Housing PIF. Individually, each of these funds consist of less than 0.15% of the FY 2024 All Funds Capital Budget. This chart does not include grant funding.

CAPITAL BUDGET

General Capital Expenditures = $76.5 million
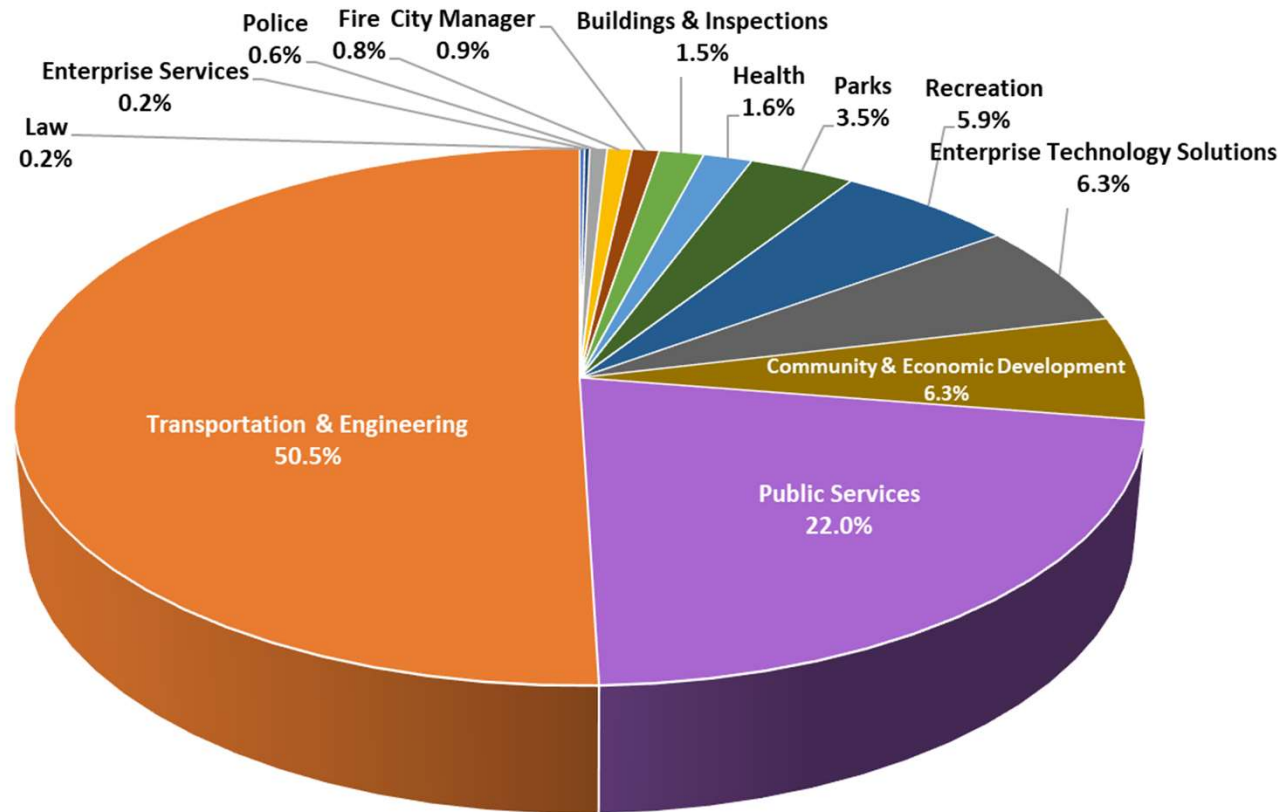
Leveraged Support

Introduction to Leveraged Support

Definition:

- Leveraged support is financial support from the City of Cincinnati to an external organization:

  1) as general operating support to fund their work in the City or
  2) as funding for a specific program aimed at addressing a public need in the City

- This does not include City funding of third parties to perform elements of City Operations — managing city-owned assets or programs.

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Eligibility Criteria

Minimum eligibility criteria and request parameters are as follows:

- **The applicant must be an existing organization** that has a three-year track record and must provide three years of audited financial statements or three years of filed federal tax returns and must not be debarred from contracting or subcontracting with the City.
  - Start-up organizations are not eligible to apply and should instead apply under the City's Boots on the Ground program (https://www.gcfdn.org/rfp/)
  - Applications requesting funding for new programs of existing organizations are acceptable.
  - Capital projects are not eligible for funding under this initiative. The focus is to support operational and programmatic expenses that directly impact Cincinnati residents by addressing a public need or service gap.
- **Funding requests should be between $50,000 and $500,000.**
  - Only in extraordinary circumstances will an award be granted in excess of $500,000.
- **Applicants must be offering a service that directly benefits City residents** under one of the categories identified by the Administration.

city of CINCINNATI

Categorization

Each category is designed to show priorities within the community and how the City is addressing these needs.

1. **Arts**: Organizations that support artistry, creativity, and culture within Cincinnati.

2. **Economic Development and Neighborhood Support**: Organizations that invest in communities or specific neighborhoods within Cincinnati to develop the local economy or increase neighborhood vitality.

3. **Environment**: Organizations dedicated to addressing climate change and improving the local ecosystems in Cincinnati.

4. **Equity and Inclusion**: Organizations focused on combatting institutional discrimination, bolstering diversity, and uplifting all genders, sexual orientations, and races in economic pursuits.

Categorization

Each category is designed to show priorities within the community and how the City is addressing these needs.

5. **Homelessness and Eviction Prevention**: Organizations aimed at combatting the affordable housing crisis, providing tenant protections, maintaining homeownership and quality rentals, and preventing homelessness.

6. **Human Services and Violence Prevention**: Organizations aimed at improving public health, legal representation, and safety among Cincinnati residents. Specific interest in:

   - programs and organizations that are serving City youth who are "dual" involved with a dependency case through the Hamilton County Department of Job & Family Services and with a delinquency case with the Hamilton County Juvenile Court
   - programs and organizations that provide gender affirming mental health care to youth and adult residents in the City of Cincinnati
   - programs and organizations working to eliminate food insecurity in the City of Cincinnati

7. **Workforce Programming and Poverty Reduction**: Organizations that assist residents in finding and maintaining gainful employment and reducing poverty.

Online Application

The online application can be found on the City's website:

https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/budget/leveraged-support/

Applications are being accepted from February 14th through March 24th.

- Questions about the application process can be directed to:
    - Tonia Smith, City Manager's Office
    - Tonia.Smith@cincinnati-oh.gov / 513-352-5361
- Recipients will be included in the City Manager's Recommended FY 2025 Budget Update
    - Budget Release targeted for May 2024
    - Subject to approval by the City Council in June 2024

Questions? Comments?

Please visit our websites:

https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/budget/

https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/finance/

March 5, 2024

To: Members of the Budget and Finance Committee

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

Subject: Presentation – FY25 Budget Engagement – Sale of the Cincinnati
               Southern Railway

Attached is a presentation regarding the FY25 Budget Engagement's Sale of the Cincinnati Southern Railway.

cc: Natasha S. Hampton, Assistant City Manager
       Virginia Tallent, Assistant City Manager
       William "Billy" Weber, Assistant City Manager

FY25 Budget Engagement
Sale of the Cincinnati Southern Railway

City Manager Sheryl Long

Overview

On November 7, 2023, at the General Election, the electors of Cincinnati decided to approve the sale of the Cincinnati Southern Railway (CSR) for approximately $1.6 billion. That money will be placed in a trust with annual returns paid to the City to fund capital projects.

In a recent assessment, it was determined that the City's unmet need for existing infrastructure improvements is estimated to be over $500 million.

Addressing deferred capital maintenance and increasing resources for it is one of the greatest financial and operational challenges faced by the City.

Infrastructure Trust

Board of Trustees
- Public body appointed by the Mayor with approval of City Council.
- Fiduciary duty to manage the trust assets efficiently and to preserve them forever.
- Hired UBS, a financial advisor, to assist in managing the trust.
- City's Finance Director has collaborative role with trustees in establishing investment and management policies for the trust.

Annual Payments to the City
- Annual payment amount will vary from year to year—based on investment returns.
- State law grants trustees the discretion to set annual amount to balance need for payments to the City but protect the trust balance for future years.
- Minimum annual payment amount must start at $26.5 million a year and escalate annually with inflation.
- If the trust balance drops by more than 25% in a single year, a pause on payments is required until balance recovers.

Cincinnati Southern Railway - FAQs

What can the sale proceeds be used for?

State law dictates funds received by the City from the infrastructure trust can only be spent "on the rehabilitation, modernization, or replacement of existing infrastructure improvements."

Existing Infrastructure means public facilities owned by the City, including:
- Streets
- Bridges
- Municipal Buildings
- Police and Fire Stations
- Parks & Greenspace
- Recreation Facilities
- Parking Facilities

Cincinnati Southern Railway - FAQs

What can the funds NOT be used for?

The funds cannot be used to pay:

- **Debt** – To avoid current spending that takes away from future allocations.
- Costs for **New Infrastructure** – To avoid rapid expansion of infrastructure that will require more maintenance in the future.
- **Operating Expenses** of the City – To avoid increasing long-term operating expenses.

Cincinnati Southern Railway - FAQs

<u>Who decides how much the City gets annually? How much money will the City get annually?</u>

- The Board of Trustees will determine how much to pay annually to the City out of the trust.

- That determination will be largely based on investment returns, but it is also controlled by state law through an established minimum (starting at $26.5 million per year) and a required halt to payments if the value of the trust drops by more than 25% in a single year.

- The City receives approximately $26.5 million per year from the current CSR lease. The City projects that the sale will likely more than double the annual amount currently received, to approximately $56.0 million.
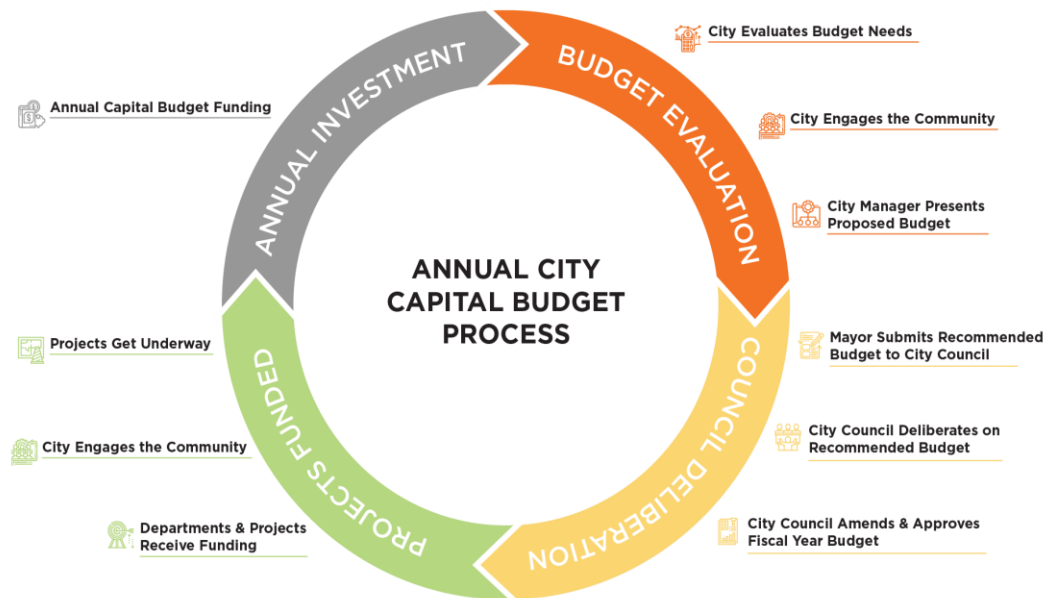
Cincinnati Southern Railway - FAQs

How will the sale impact upcoming fiscal years?

- The CSR Sale is projected to close March 15, 2024.
- In FY24, our current fiscal year, the City will not receive the final lease payment due to the sale. However, transaction fees from the sale (which are in addition to the $1.6 billion) are expected to provide adequate funding to account for this.
- In FY25, which begins July 1, 2024, the trust fund will not have adequate time from the March sale date to provide a significant return. Therefore, the City will rely on a one-time payment of transaction fees and other cash on hand from the Trustees to fund the trust's capital contribution for FY25. That amount is expected to be approximately $30 million, which is a multi-million dollar increase over the prior lease payment of $26.3 million.
- In FY26, which begins July 1, 2025, the City will likely see the first significant increase in funding from the sale proceeds.

Cincinnati Southern Railway - FAQs

<u>Who decides how the money the City receives annually is spent?</u>

Your elected officials on City Council. They will decide through the regular annual budget process each year how to allocate the resources, just like the current CSR lease proceeds.

Cincinnati Southern Railway - FAQs

The Cincy On Track initiative will propose and track expenditures among the five major program categories below.

Parks

Recreation

Streets & Sidewalks (Transportation Infrastructure)

Public Services

Health

The priorities for capital spending will need to be re-assessed on an annual basis and updated based on feedback from our elected officials, public engagement, and the City's departments.

Cincinnati Southern Railway - FAQs

How will the City Administration determine what to recommend for funding?

Annually Cincy On Track funding recommendations will be proposed utilizing the following criteria as guidelines:

- **Infrastructure Condition** | Repair or replace existing infrastructure that is at or beyond its useful service life.

- **Equity** | Distribute investments Citywide with particular focus on underserved communities.

- **Cost Effectiveness** | Spend less without sacrificing the impact that quality infrastructure brings to communities.

- **Project Readiness** | Ability to repair, replace, or improve assets on schedule without disruptive delays.

Cincinnati Southern Railway - FAQs

How will the City ensure transparency for the Cincy on Track initiative?

- City Manager's Recommended Capital Budget – Cincy on Track Report
  - In the City Manager's Recommended Capital Budget, there will be included a Cincy on Track expenditure report, which will detail the proposed use of the trust fund dollars in that year's recommended budget.
  - This report will be updated with any changes made during the approval process and included in the final approved budget document.

- Dashboard
  - The City's Office of Performance and Data Analytics is working closely with the Budget and Finance Offices to put together a dashboard that will show the annual allocation of the Cincy on Track initiative.