



City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Agenda - Final-revised Healthy Neighborhoods

Chairperson, Jan-Michele Kearney
Vice Chairperson, Victoria Parks
Councilmember Anna Albi
Councilmember Scotty Johnson

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

12:30 PM

Council Chambers, Room 300

PRESENTATIONS

SPEAKERS

Imperial Theater Updates

Julie Fay, Developer

Marilyn Hyland, Project Director

Marta Backman Hyland, Director of Theatre Development

Seven Hills Neighborhood Houses - STEPS

Deseree Byrd - STEPS Youth Director

Alexis Kidd Zaffer - The Neighborhood House Executive Director

PRESENTATIONS

1. [202500625](#) **PRESENTATION**, submitted by Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Kearney, regarding the Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts & Education Center, *An Unparalleled Platform for Artists to Grow, Collaborate & Create*.

Sponsors: Kearney
Attachments: [Presentation](#)
2. [202500620](#) **PRESENTATION**, submitted by Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Kearney, regarding Seven Hills Neighborhood Houses - STEPS, STEPS - Success Through Empowering Programs & Services.

Sponsors: Kearney
Attachments: [Presentation](#)

AGENDA

3. [202500582](#) **REPORT**, dated 3/26/2025, submitted Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager, regarding Parking Citation Amnesty Period. (Reference Document # 202401714)
- Sponsors:** City Manager
- Attachments:** [Report](#)
4. [202500594](#) **ORDINANCE**, submitted by Vice Mayor Kearney, from Emily Smart Woerner, City Solicitor, **DECLARING** that Reading Road at Gholson Avenue in the Avondale neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “Katt Williams Way” in honor of Micah “Katt” Williams, and in recognition of his contributions to the City of Cincinnati as a nationally recognized stand-up comedian, actor, and producer who has risen to fame due to his outstanding talent, hard work, and perseverance.
- Sponsors:** Kearney
- Attachments:** [Transmittal](#)
[Ordinance](#)

ADJOURNMENT



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center



An unparalleled platform for artists to grow, collaborate and create

280 W McMicken Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

A359



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project

Building History

The Imperial Theatre opened as a Vaudeville House in 1912 with over 900 seats.

The original recessed entry was converted to an indoor lobby in the 1920s during the time of silent films, then talkies.

The iconic marquee was added during its heyday as a movie theatre in the 1930's-1950's. This impressive marquee was featured in Wagner Signs (Chicago) advertisements because of its many unique features.

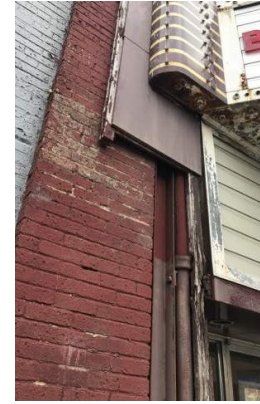
The Imperial Theatre is located in the Mohawk Place National Historic District and the Sohn-Mohawk Local Historic District.



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project



- Anchor building within the Arts District
- Preservation of an iconic Cincinnati Landmark in this highly visible location
- Vision: State of the art, comprehensive performing arts and education center for all ages
- Vision: Thriving local and arts related businesses
- Vision: Affordable residential community for artists and entrepreneurs



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project

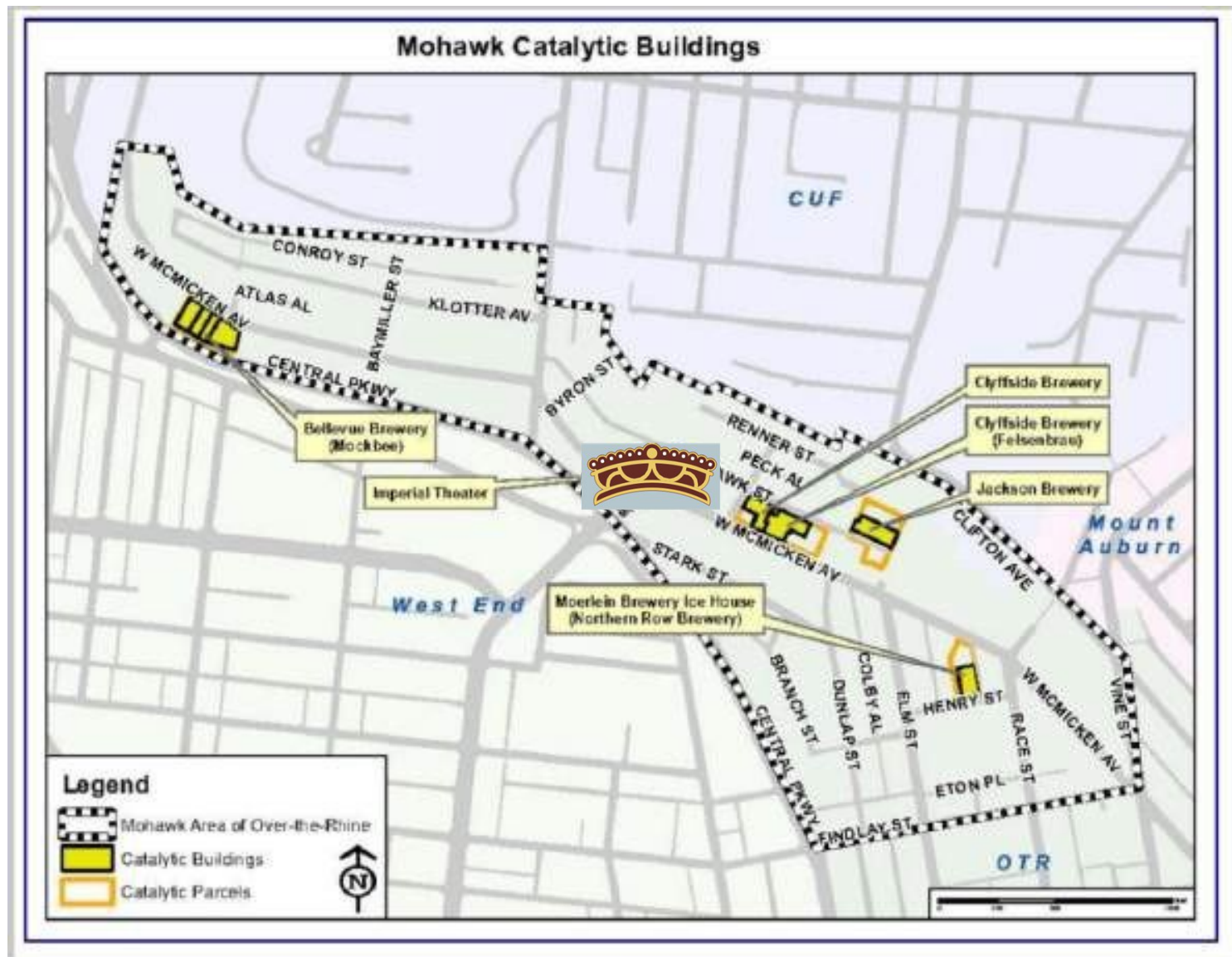
History and Connectivity



Mohawk, once a village along Hamilton Road (now known as McMicken), was established in 1792 along a trail to Hamilton, Ohio. As the Miami & Erie Canal was constructed in the 1820's Mohawk grew along the canal and became an important industrial center. Mohawk's businesses used the canal to transport goods north toward Toledo and Lake Erie, and south to the Ohio River. In the 1880's the canal enabled OTR Brewery District beers to find ready customers all the way to Memphis and New Orleans.

Catalytic Project

The renovation of Imperial Theater Mohawk is a catalyst for transformational community and economic development.



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project

Neighborhood Catalytic Capital Investment Program Round 1 - 280 W McMicken - Historic Imperial Theatre

Completed:

- Existing Conditions Plumbing Assessment and Report
- Hazardous Material Survey and Report
- Existing Conditions Electric Assessment
- Water Infiltration Evaluation and Report
- Architectural/MEP/Structural Design Stabilization Plans Complete
 - Masonry Rehabilitation, Security Improvements - Exterior Side Exit Doors
 - Bids received 2/14
 - Anticipated Construction Summer 2025
- Phase 1b Lobby Bar Design and Rough Plumbing
 - Schematic Design Plans, 3d Views and Narrative Complete



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project

Neighborhood Catalytic Capital Investment Program Round 2 - 278 W McMicken - Performing Arts and Education Center Site

Completed:

- ALTA Site Survey (American Land Title Association)
- Soil Borings & Geotechnical Report
- Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment
- Annex Design – Architectural, Structural, Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing
 - Schematic Plans, 3D Views and Narratives
- City of Cincinnati Coordinated Site Review Process
 - Preliminary Design Review Comments Received from the City

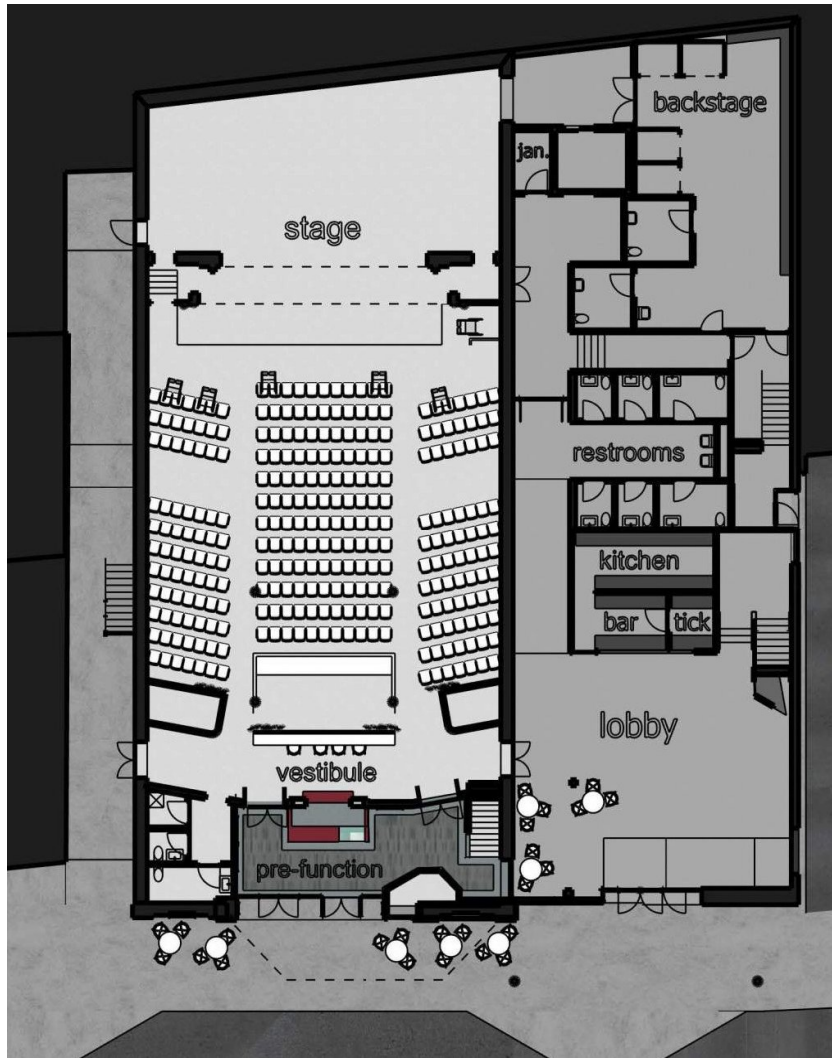
Neighborhood Catalytic Capital Investment Program Round 3 - 280 W McMicken - Historic Imperial Theatre

Awarded:

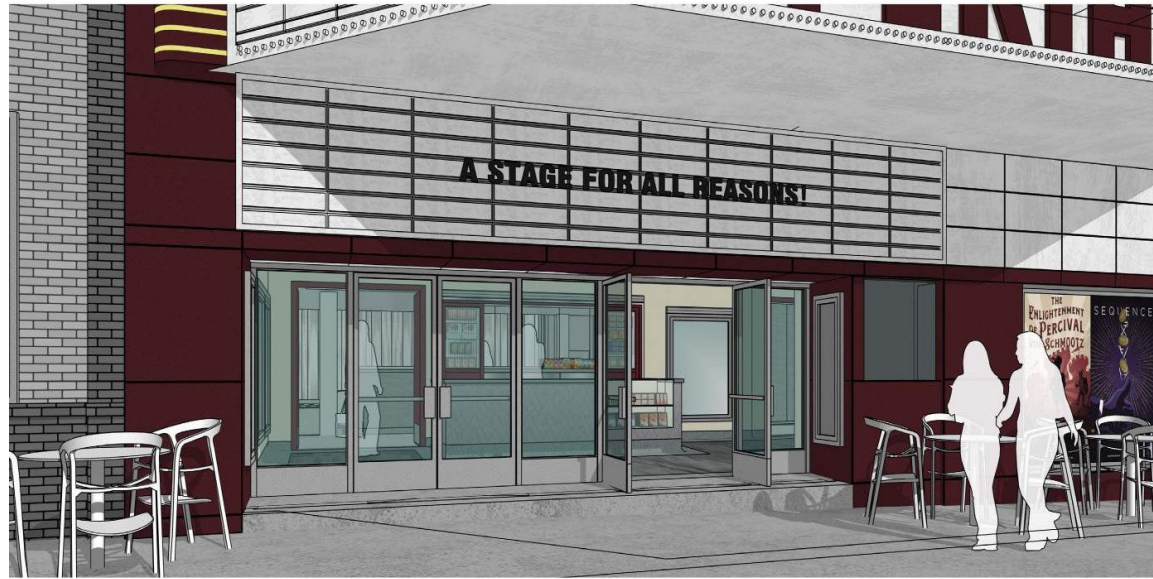
- Masonry Rehabilitation at Primary South Façade - West Portion
- Water Infiltration Mitigation – Boiler Vault
- Wrought Iron Fence & Gate - West Alley
- Sidewalk Replacement – West Alley
- Entry Storefront Rehab/Replacement
- Stormwater Piping Repairs
- Abatement of Asbestos-Containing Materials
- Design - Architectural Materials Research and Project Mangement



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project



Proposed First Floor Plan



Lobby Cafe



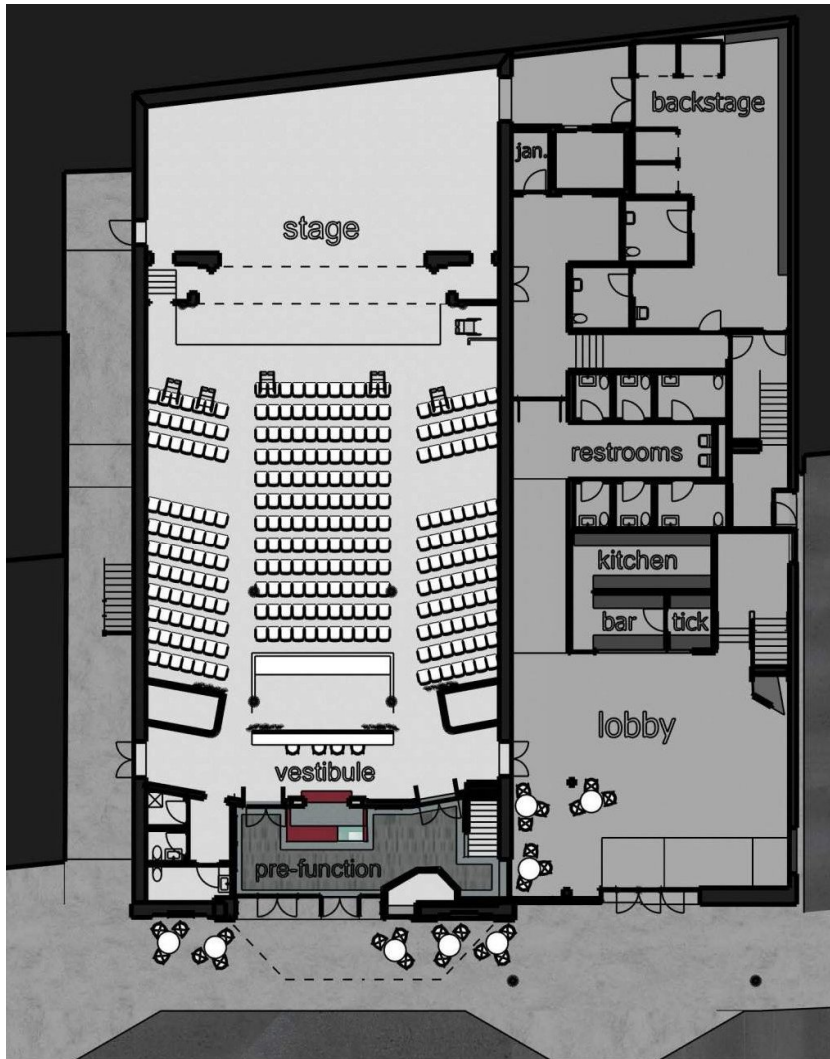
The Imperial Presents



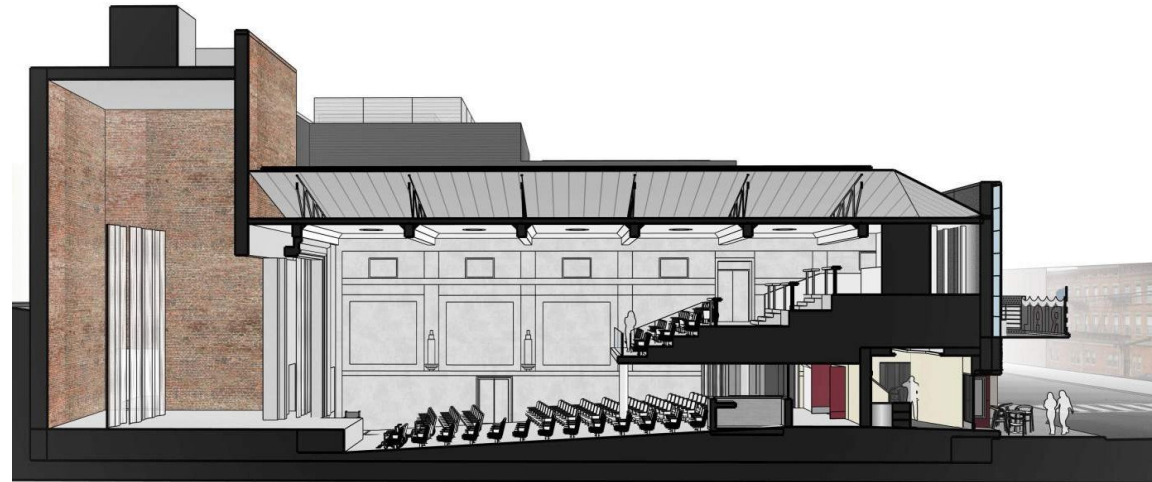


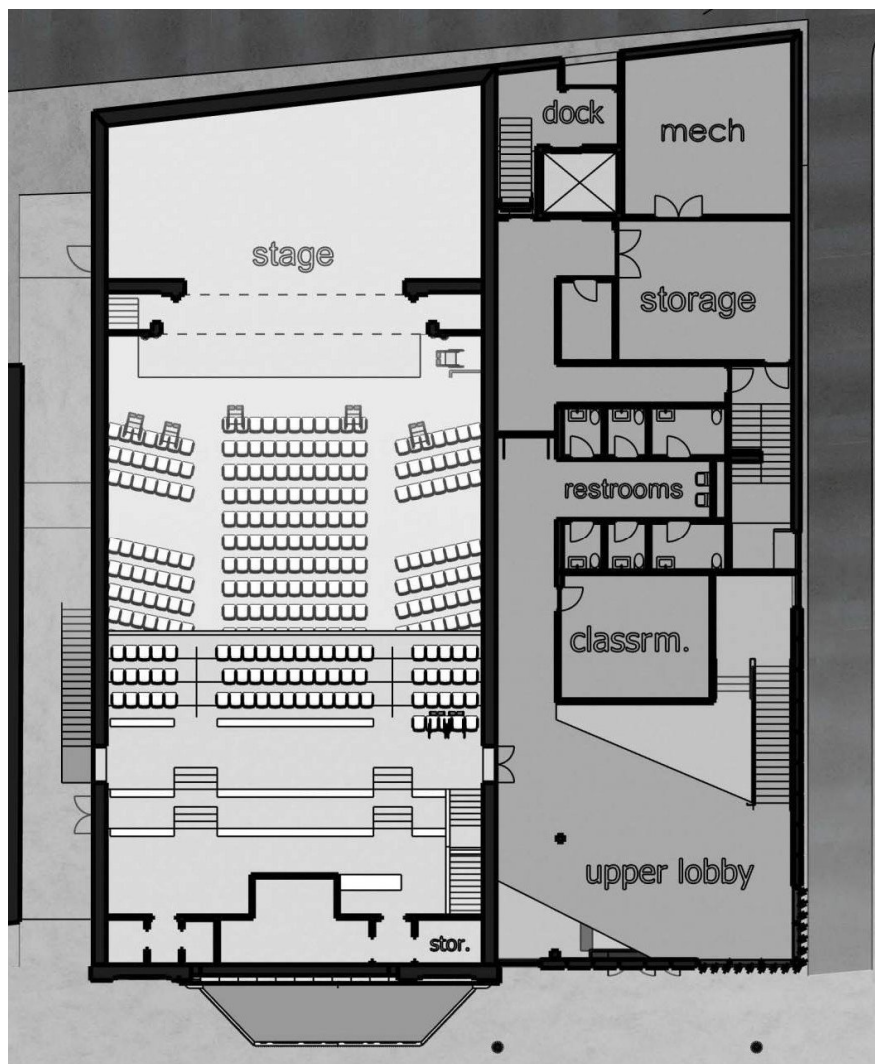
Imperial Theatre Tours





Proposed First Floor Plan

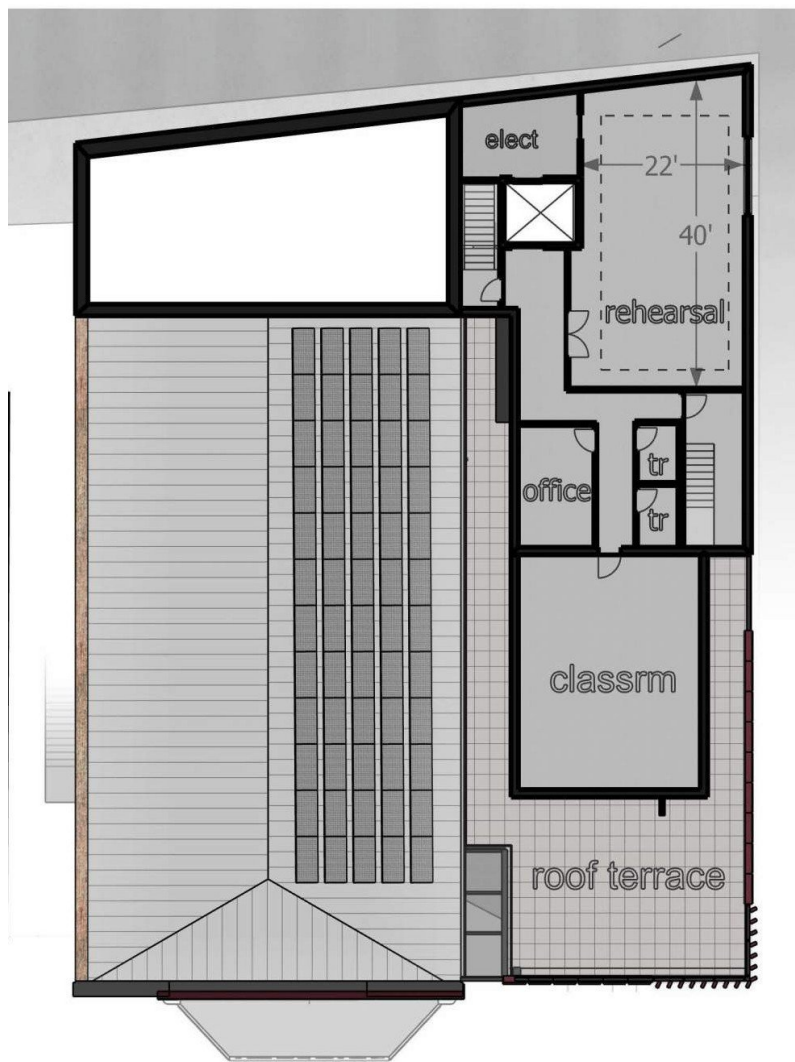




Proposed Second Floor Plan



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project



Proposed Third Floor Plan



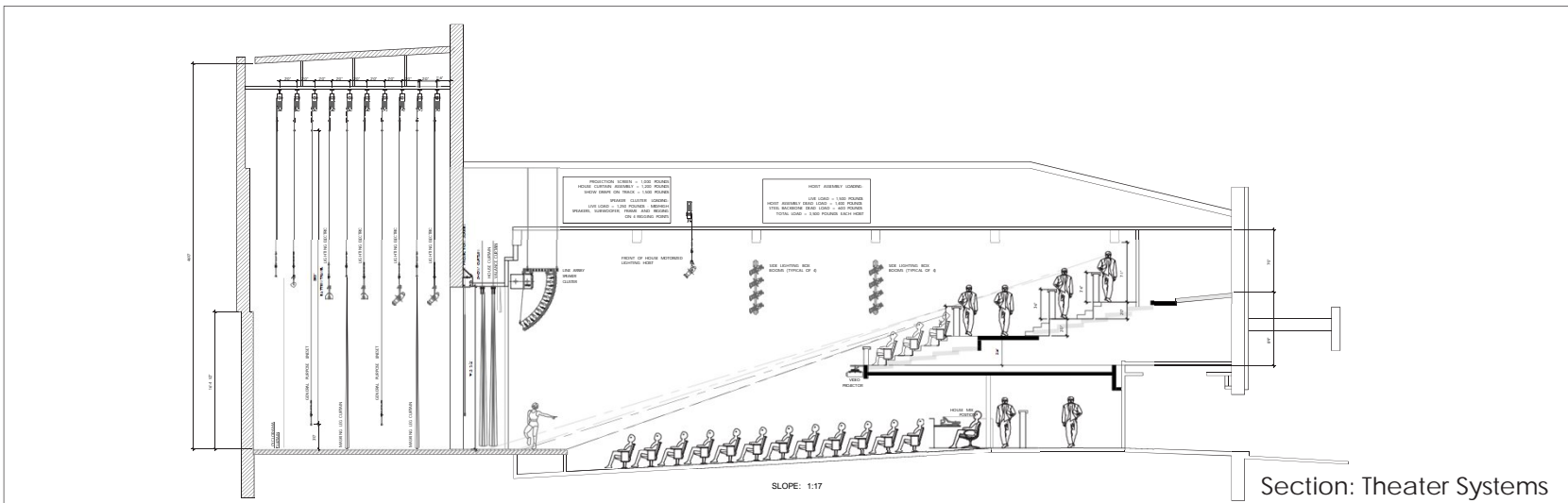
Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project

BUILDING FEATURES

- FULLY ACCESSIBLE | ADA COMPLIANT
- 321 ORCHESTRA SEATS
- 68 BALCONY SEATS WITH 40+ ADDITIONAL STANDING ROOM OPTIONS
- EXTENSIVE FLY SPACE FOR RIGGING | SETS
- BACKSTAGE AREA WITH INDUSTRY REGULATION DRESSING ROOMS, TOILET ROOMS, MAKE UP STATIONS
- STATE OF THE ART TECHNOLOGY | HOUSE SOUND, LIGHT & PROJECTION
- LARGE SCALE FREIGHT | PASSENGER ELEVATOR
- LARGE REHEARSAL ROOM (22' X 40')
- CLASSROOM SPACE (24' X 27' and 21' x 16')
- MULTI-USE LOBBY | PRE-FUNCTION SPACES ON LEVELS 1 AND 2
- CAFE | BAR | CATERING AREAS
- ROOF TOP AMENITY
- SUSTAINABLE BUILDING SYSTEMS | DESIGNED TO LEED SILVER
- EXISTING THEATRE 8,760 SF | PROPOSED ADDITION 11,064 SF
TOTAL SF: 20,128 SF
- PROPOSED DESIGN HAS ACHIEVED PART 2 HISTORIC TAX CREDITS



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project





Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Project Team

Julie Fay - Imperial 280, LLC - Member | Developer
 Contact: jdfayotr@gmail.com | 513.260.8434

Marilyn Hyland - Marilyn Hyland Agency, Project Director

Marta Hyland - Theatre Development Consultant

Keith Wicks - Keith Wicks & Associates, Market and Budget Analyst

Chad Arfons - McDonald Hopins LLC, Attorney

Imperial Theatre Mohawk Alliance, Operator, 501c3 Organization



Architect
 16 East 12th Street, Cincinnati OH 45202



Theater Design Consultant
 1841 Ft. Henry, Ft. Wright, KY 41011



Mechanical Engineer
 222 E. 14th Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202



Cost Estimating
 2416 Central Pkwy, Cincinnati, OH 45214



Structural Engineer
 537 E Pete Rose Way #400, Cincinnati, OH 45202



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
 A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project



Thank You!

An unparalleled platform for artists to grow, collaborate and create



Imperial Theatre - Mohawk Performing Arts and Education Center
A Catalytic, Historic, Arts, Community Redevelopment Project

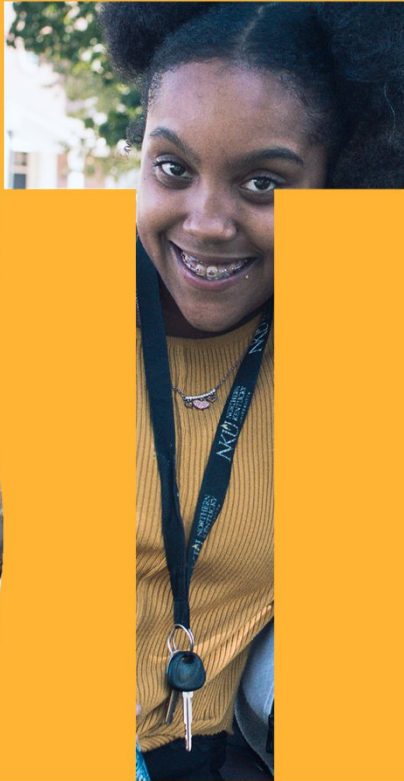


Mission: As partners in the communities we serve; we are dedicated to improving the quality of life of our neighbors.





Success Through Empowering Programs & Services



HISTORY OF FINDLAY STREET S.T.E.P.S. YOUTH

In 1945, Findlay Street Neighborhood House was founded as a settlement house and neighborhood center in the former St. Barnabas Church. The Neighborhood House provided social services to predominantly low-income African-American families living in the West End. In 1961, the West End's Findlay Street Neighborhood House and East End's Riverview Neighbors House merged to become Seven Hills Neighborhood Houses.

Youth have always been at the center of the Findlay Street Neighborhood House. From the founding of Camp Joy, to establishing the first daycare centers in the City, youth have always remained at the heart of our work at the Neighborhood House.

Vision: To create health and prosperity for all our neighbors.



CAREER EXPLORATION

Barbering

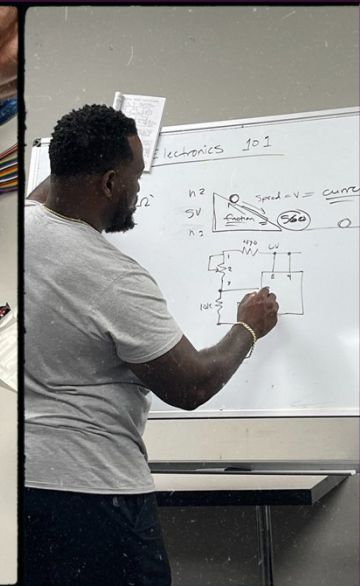
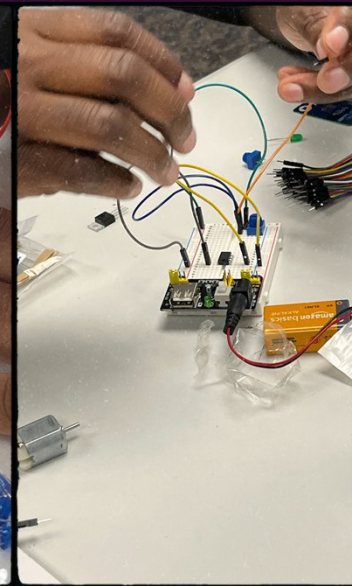
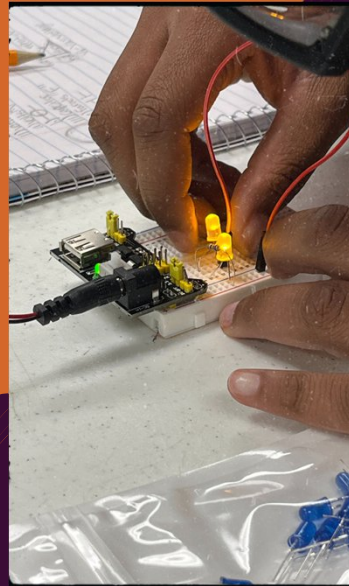
Cooking

Sewing

College Tours

Engineering and Tech

Mental Health Advocacy



FINDLAY STREET ATHLETICS

- Basketball
- Boxing
- Korfball
- Dance
- Tumbling
- Skating



FINDLAY STREET ATHLETICS

- Basketball
- Boxing
- Korfbal
- Dance
- Tumbling
- Skating



ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITIES

- Fresher, more Nutritious Produce
- Various of Health Impacts
- Reduces Crime
- Provide Food Assistance to Households
- Cooking Classes



SUMMER DAY CAMP

- Youth Employment
- Camping
- Field Trips
- Academic Time
- Summer Meals
- Extracurricular Classes



EDUCATION & EMPOWERMENT

- Academic Support
- STEAM Sessions
- Mental Health & SEL Sessions
- Mentorship
- Tutoring



EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS



OUR SUCCESS IS YOUR SUCCESS

240+ Youth

registered to participate
in STEPS activities and
programs

14,000+ Meals

served through our after
school program, summer day
camp, & special programs

100% of Youth

surveyed report feeling
safe and supported



PROGRAMMING PARTNERS



THANK YOU!



March 26, 2025

202500582

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Sheryl M.M. Long, City Manager

Subject: **Parking Citation Amnesty Period**

REFERENCE DOCUMENT #202401714

At its session on September 4, 2024, the Healthy Neighborhoods Committee referred the following item for review and report:

WE MOVE for the City Administration to create a parking amnesty period from September 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024, for unpaid parking tickets incurred within the City of Cincinnati through July 31, 2024. The amount owed during this amnesty period will include only the original ticket cost and no additional penalties or fees.

BACKGROUND

Parking restrictions help ensure appropriate and safe use of the right-of-way curb areas such as no parking zones, bus stops, handicapped parking, loading zones, residential parking and metered parking for turnover. Parking fines are the way local governments enforce areas where parking is restricted. When parking occurs in violation of the posted signage, parking fines help encourage a change in behavior. By penalizing parking in unsafe zones that increase risk of accidents¹, they are a critical part of pedestrian and road user safety. The City of Cincinnati (“the City”) has a duty to enforce the collection of parking fines, while recognizing the complexities of circumstances and being reasonable throughout the collection process.

Parking Citation Collections Overview

The City upholds a fair and robust process for issuing and collecting parking fines and penalties. Citations paid within 14 days do not have a penalty; citations paid after 14 days but before 21 days are assessed a penalty; and citations paid after 21 days are assessed an additional penalty up to a maximum [*as outlined in the chart below*]. All citations are issued according to the Cincinnati Municipal Code section

¹ ‘Influence of typical drivers’ unsafe driving behaviors to traffic operation: An exploratory study in Kunming, China’ [2017]; *Advances in Mechanical Engineering*

515-11, and citations written in error are eligible for appeal through the City's Violation Bureau, managed by the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Chart: Parking Violation Fines & Corresponding Penalties

Parking Violation	Original fine	Penalty #1	Penalty #2
Meter	\$45	\$10 (\$55 total)	\$35 (\$90 total)
Non-Meter	\$65	\$10 (\$75 total)	\$25 (\$100 total)
Streetcar	\$100	\$0 (\$100 total)	\$100 (\$100 total)
Fire Hydrant	\$250	\$10 (\$260 total)	\$240 (\$500 total)
Handicap	\$250	\$10 (\$260 total)	\$240 (\$500 total)

Collection Process for Unpaid Citations

Vehicle Registration Holds

The City participates in the State of Ohio's Drivers with Excess Tickets Excluding Registration ("DETER") program. Drivers with three or more unpaid citations – or one or more handicap violation citations – are eligible for registration holds from the State of Ohio. This program was established following the state-level decriminalization of parking infractions and has proven to be effective in collecting past-due parking citations. It is also effective in that it prevents drivers with a record of consistent violations from registration of a vehicle in the State of Ohio. Research has indicated that drivers with a background of multiple parking violations are at an increased risk of elevated driving violations such as accidents down the line.² DETER is one of the main collection processes for Ohio cities.

3rd Party Collections / Managed Receivables (MR) program

Citations not paid after 90 days become eligible for submission to the City of Cincinnati's managed receivable (MR) program, currently administered by a third-party vendor. Once part of the MR program, the collection agency can use all resources available by law to facilitate the payment of unpaid citations on behalf of the City. This collections process supplements the DETER program for citations issued to Ohio registered owners.

Towing for Parking Citations

Cincinnati does not have a proactive towing program for *unpaid* citations. However, the City of Cincinnati *is* empowered to tow vehicles for unpaid citations in the circumstance a driver has *three or more verified unpaid parking*; this threshold has been in place for years.

² *Identification and screening of key traffic violations: based on the perspective of expressing driver's accident risk' [2023]; International Journal of Injury Control and Safety Promotion*

If vehicles are found via routine patrol wherein the parking violation constitutes a critical safety concern, they are considered tow-eligible and may be pursued regardless of prior parking infractions incurred. Such parking infractions include but are not limited to *parking in no parking areas, blocking transit routes, and other similar infractions*. All towed vehicles must pay accrued parking citations, as well as tow and storage fees, to be released from the Cincinnati Impound Lot.

Parking Amnesty Program

Amnesty programs are not standard in nature and vary from one community to the next. Municipalities may undertake parking amnesty programs from time to time in specialized situations where the late fees resulting from non-payment of the parking citation within a specified period after issuance are waived in part or in whole in exchange for payment of the unpaid citation amount. If and when these programs are conducted, the aim is to increase awareness of unpaid citations from prior years, lower the bar of entry for curing the amount owed, and ultimately encourage full repayment.

The Administration does not regularly undertake amnesty programs except when requested by Cincinnati City Council.

NEXT STEPS

2025 Parking Amnesty Program

Upon the direction and approval of a motion from City Council, the Administration could proceed with a parking amnesty program in 2025.

cc: Markiea L. Carter, Director, Department of Community & Economic Development

20250594

Date: April 2, 2025

To: Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney
From: Emily Smart Woerner, City Solicitor EESW/EEF
Subject: Ordinance – Honorary Street Renaming – Katt Williams Way

Transmitted herewith is an ordinance captioned as follows:

DECLARING that Reading Road at Gholson Avenue in the Avondale neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “Katt Williams Way” in honor of Micah “Katt” Williams, and in recognition of his contributions to the City of Cincinnati as a nationally recognized stand-up comedian, actor, and producer who has risen to fame due to his outstanding talent, hard work, and perseverance.

EESW/JRS(dbr)
Attachment
417983

EMERGENCY

City of Cincinnati

JRS

EESW/EEF

An Ordinance No. _____

- 2025

DECLARING that Reading Road at Gholson Avenue in the Avondale neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of "Katt Williams Way" in honor of Micah "Katt" Williams, and in recognition of his contributions to the City of Cincinnati as a nationally recognized stand-up comedian, actor, and producer who has risen to fame due to his outstanding talent, hard work, and perseverance.

WHEREAS, Micah ("Katt") Williams was born on September 2, 1971, at Christ Hospital in Cincinnati and lived in the Avondale neighborhood, where he began performing stand-up comedy; and

WHEREAS, at the age of thirteen, Mr. Williams moved out of his parents' home and traveled to Florida to support himself as a street seller and began developing his comic delivery by performing his routine in cities across the country; and

WHEREAS, by 1999, Mr. Williams established himself as a stand-up comedian, performing in venues such as The Improv, The Comedy Club, The Ice House, and The Hollywood Park Casino; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams' first acting role was in the popular television series, "NYPD Blue" in 2002 and he continued his rise to fame after appearing on "Wild 'n Out" for numerous seasons; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Mr. Williams starred in the official music video for his "Wild 'n Out" bandmate's, Nick Cannon, hit single, "Gigolo"; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Mr. Williams starred in his first comedy spectacular, "Katt Williams: Live: Let a Playa Play" and his first HBO stand-up special, "The Pimp Chronicles, Part 1," was also released in 2006; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, Mr. Williams played a character named Slickback, in the movie "The Boondocks," and Mr. Williams was given a movie/standup comedy project which he termed, "American Hustle" which was a critical hit, and it helped to establish him as a mainstream comic; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, Mr. Williams' second HBO comedy special, "It's Pimpin' Pimpin'," was released, and the same year, Mr. Williams played himself as a stand-up comedian in the video game, "Grand Theft Auto IV" and continued his career by creating comedy DVDs and performing, and his 2008 comedy tour was rated the best of the year by Billboard; and

WHEREAS, after a four-year break, Mr. Williams returned to stand-up comedy in 2012 with “Kattpacalypse,” his third HBO comedy special, and in 2014, he had a fourth HBO special titled, “Katt Williams: Priceless: Afterlife,” and in 2018, his stand-up special “Great America” was released on Netflix; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams has been featured in supporting roles in films such as “First Sunday,” “Norbit,” and “Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore,” and he is best known for his role as Money Mike in “Friday After Next”; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams has appeared in television shows including in several episodes of “My Wife and Kids,” he was the roastmaster of Flavor Flav’s “Comedy Central Roast,” and he is known for his role as “Katt ‘In the Hat’ Williams” on BET’s “Comic View”; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, Mr. Williams received a Primetime Emmy Award for ‘Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series’ for his role as “Willy” in the season two premiere of “Atlanta”; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Micah (“Katt”) Williams has made a lasting impact to the Cincinnati community and to the City of Cincinnati’s citizens, and his contributions as a nationally recognized stand-up comedian, actor, and producer will long be remembered; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That Reading Road at Gholson Avenue in the Avondale neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “Katt Williams Way” in honor of Micah “Katt” Williams and in recognition of his contributions as a nationally recognized stand-up comedian, actor, and producer and his impact to the community.

Section 2. That the appropriate City officials are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and proper to implement the provisions of Section 1 herein, including the generation and installation of appropriate secondary street signage, which shall designate Reading Road at Gholson Avenue in the Avondale neighborhood as “Katt Williams Way” in accordance with the Department of Transportation and Engineering’s procedures relating to street designation and related signage.

Section 3. That a copy of this ordinance be sent to Mr. Williams via the office of Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare and shall, subject to the terms of Article II, Section 6 of the Charter, be effective immediately. The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to allow the Department of Transportation and Engineering to move forward with the administrative requirements related to the honorary naming of streets to provide for the ceremony and dedication of the honorary street name at the earliest possible time.

Passed: _____, 2025

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk