

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Executive Summary - Ord. No. 838-2021

Background/Purpose:

Authorizing the Director of Public Health to accept a grant from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for financial assistance for the operation of the Division of Air Quality.

To perform air pollution control activities throughout Cleveland and Cuyahoga County as delegated by Ohio EPA and to comply with all its contractual obligations. These activities fall within three (3) main categories associated with three Sections of the Division of Air Quality (DAQ): the Enforcement, Engineering, and the Field Monitoring Sections. These sections all work together on the common goal to improve the quality of life in the City of Cleveland and make Cleveland a more desirable place to live and work.

Enforcement Section: The enforcement section ensures that industrial and commercial air pollution sources within Cuyahoga County that are regulated by Ohio EPA air pollution regulations are in compliance with the Ohio EPA rules and regulations. The Enforcement section responds to citizen complaints about those regulated sources and regulates asbestos abatement in Cuyahoga County for sources that are subject to the Asbestos National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants.

Engineering Section: The Engineering Section prepares and issues permits to stationary sources of air pollution (including power plants, gas stations, incinerators, and other fixed sources of air pollution that do not move around). Permits are required to be obtained before construction begins, and to operate the source. The permits developed by the Engineering Section apply Federal, State, and local laws to control air pollution from regulated sources.

Field Monitoring Section: The field monitoring section operates a network of ambient air monitors throughout Cuyahoga County. The network measures "criteria pollutants". The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) uses six "criteria pollutants" as indicators of air quality, and has established for each of them a maximum concentration above which adverse effects on humans may occur. The threshold concentrations are known as the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. The "criteria pollutants" include carbon monoxide, lead, sulfur dioxide, ozone, particulate matter, and nitrogen oxides.

This ordinance would continue to allow the Director of the Cleveland Department of Public Health, on behalf of the Division of Air Quality, to enter into all contracts and all amendments with the Ohio EPA and to:

1. Perform the air pollution control permitting, enforcement, and monitoring activities throughout Cleveland and Cuyahoga County as delegated by Ohio EPA and fulfill all contractual obligations stated in the contract.
2. Authorize the Director to enter into standard, lease agreements, professional services, requirement, public improvement and state contracts for the purchase of services, equipment and supplies necessary to implement the programs.

Grant Amount: \$2,555,920.00

Grant Term: October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2023

Funding Source: Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

CLEVELAND LOCAL AIR AGENCY PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Division of Air Quality

The new contract will run from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2023.
 No final budget figures are available from Ohio EPA at this time; due to the federal budget issues these budget numbers are a best estimate at this time.

OHIO EPA EACH YEAR CONTRACT: Divided into the following sharing ratios:

STATE:	\$ 1,304,971.00
STATE: (Estimated Fee Collection)	\$ 228,724.00
FEDERAL: (Section 105 Funds)	\$ 540,796.00
CITY: (Local Match)	\$ 393,000.00
(\$276,100.00 Cash Match and \$116,900.00 in-kind salary/benefits)	
 STATE ENFORCEMENT Dollars:	 \$ 84,129.00
 FEDERAL (PM 2.5): (Section 103 Funds)	 \$ 104,027.00
TOTAL:	\$ 2,555,920.00

Main Contract: consists of: State (Tipping Fee Fund), Title V fees, Non-Title V fees, PTI fees, Asbestos fees, and Synthetic Minor fees and Local Match requirement.

PM 2.5 represents: All federal Section 103 pass-through dollars.

Rotary represents: State money owed to us from civil penalty enforcement settlements.

OBJECTIVE:

Cleveland Department of Public Health, Division of Air Quality (CDAQ) serves as Ohio EPA's Delegated Agent for air pollution control for all of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County. As a contractual representative with Ohio EPA for performing air monitoring, air permits and enforcement work in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County, Federal grant money that Ohio EPA receives for air pollution work is "passed through" to the Cleveland agency.

The Division of Air Quality is driven by its primary objective to ensure that regulated industrial and commercial sources within Cleveland and Cuyahoga County are in compliance with federal, state, and local air quality regulations. CDAQ installs, operates and maintains the monitoring equipment, and reports resultant data of ambient levels of criteria air pollutants throughout Cleveland and Cuyahoga County as a component of a statewide monitoring and reporting network.

The Division of Air Quality includes three sections which work together to achieve the objective of meeting Federal clean air standards. The Monitoring Section measures air pollution levels at more than 21 sites in Cuyahoga County for six National Ambient air Criteria Pollutants. These measurements determine the overall air quality in the city and county. The Engineering Section operates the permit system, which requires all industrial sources of air pollution to register and obtain permits. The permit system identifies sources and establishes limits on the amount of emissions released into the atmosphere. The Enforcement Section maintains surveillance on pollution sources and responds to complaints from the public about a variety of air pollution problems.

All sections work together on the common goal to improve the quality of life in the City of Cleveland and make Cleveland a more desirable place to live and work.

ACTIVITY:

Inspects industrial sources within Cleveland and Cuyahoga County that are regulated by Ohio EPA to ensure their compliance with Ohio EPA rules and regulations.

Responds to and investigates citizen complaints.

Regulates and inspects asbestos abatement projects in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County to ensure compliance with regulations.

Works closely with business and industry to provide timely preparation of industrial air pollution source permits

Operates a network of ambient air monitors at over 21 locations throughout Cuyahoga County. The network measures "criteria pollutants". The "criteria pollutants" include carbon monoxide, lead, sulfur dioxide, ozone, particulate matter, and nitrogen oxides.

Issues permits for open burning, sandblasting, and asbestos abatement.

Issues installation, operation, and renewal permits for industrial air pollution sources.

Issues various violation notices to violators and ensures compliance through additional inspections and forwarding enforcement actions to Ohio EPA.