

Ordinance No. 727-2025

By Council Member Howse-Jones

FOR PASSAGE
June 2, 2025

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE
Authorizing the Director of Community Development to enter into one or more agreements with East 66th Street Services, Inc., dba Neighborhood Connections, to implement a pilot community-based initiative for Ward 7.

WHEREAS, 2021 data from The Center for Community Solutions (“Community Solution’s Data”) indicates the following income and poverty statistics for Ward 7 and the City of Cleveland (“City”) as a whole:

<u>Income and Poverty</u>	<u>Ward 7</u>	<u>City</u>
Median Household Income	\$20,991	\$30,907
Poverty		
- Persons living below poverty	43.8%	32.7%
- Children (age 0-17) below poverty	56.0%	48.2%;

and

WHEREAS, Community Solution’s Data also indicates that 7 out of 10 Ward 7 residents live at or below the federal poverty rate; and

WHEREAS, in 2026, most of the same areas in the current Ward 7 boundaries will be included in Ward 8; and

WHEREAS, East 66th Street Services, Inc., dba as Neighborhood Connections, (“Neighborhood Connections”) submitted its proposal dated November 4, 2024 (the “Proposal”) to implement a pilot community-based initiative to grow an environment where residents and other stakeholders in Ward 7 can more easily connect to one another, build trust, share information and create opportunities for collective action by providing grassroots grants, training residents on building power and connections in the community, implementing and developing Neighbor Nights in the Hough and St. Clair Neighborhoods, and holding Action Clinics and will purchase food and beverages for the Neighborhood Nights, Action Clinics, and Grant Making Committee meetings (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, this ordinance constitutes an emergency measure providing for the usual daily operation of a municipal department; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

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Section 1. That this Council finds that the contract(s) authorized in Section 2 of this ordinance is a proper public purpose in that the Project will help make a more equitable Ward 7 (and Ward 8 starting in 2026) where residents and organizations work to make positive changes in their communities.

Section 2. That notwithstanding any provisions of the Codified Ordinances of Cleveland, Ohio, 1976, to the contrary, the Director of Community Development is authorized to enter into one or more agreements with Neighborhood Connections to implement the Project based on the Proposal.

Section 3. That the agreement or agreements shall be prepared by the Director of Law and shall contains such terms and provisions as he deems necessary.

Section 4. That the cost of the agreement or agreements shall not exceed \$258,305 and shall be paid from Fund No. 10 SF 166, Project Number D25330.

Section 5. That this ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

SM:ad
6-2-2025
FOR: Councilmember Howse-Jones

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REPORT
after second Reading

By Council Member Howse-Jones

Authorizing the Director of Community Development to enter into one or more agreements with East 66th Street Services, Inc., dba Neighborhood Connections, to implement a pilot community-based initiative for Ward 7.

READ FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME

and referred to

REPORTS

CITY CLERK

READ SECOND TIME

CITY CLERK

READ THIRD TIME on JUNE 2, 2025

PRESIDENT

CITY CLERK

APPROVED

MAYOR

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