

# Ordinance No. 400-2026

**By Council Members Starr and Griffin  
(by departmental request)**

## AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

Authorizing the Director of Finance, on behalf of the Office of Sustainability, to apply for and accept one or more grants from various public or private entities to establish and operate a climate resilience pilot program, for a period of up to two years.

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WHEREAS, the Department of Finance, on behalf of the Office of Sustainability, desires to establish and operate a citywide climate resilience pilot program (the “Pilot Program”), which program involves paid training for youths and seniors residing in the City of Cleveland to maintain green infrastructure; to provide community-level climate resilience support during adverse climatic events including but not limited to sheltering during power outages and recovery from damages caused by storms; and to provide general community engagement in safety, climate action, education and developmental opportunities for program participants, for a period of up to two years; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Public Safety, and the Community Relations Board will work closely with the Office of Sustainability to implement the Pilot Program to expand climate resilience efforts while creating opportunities for community engagement, workforce development, and neighborhood stewardship; and

WHEREAS, grant funding for the establishment and operation of the Pilot Program may be available from public, private, philanthropic, or governmental sources; 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:

Section 1. That the Director of Finance, on behalf of the Office of Sustainability, is authorized to apply for and accept one or more grants in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$250,000.00, from various public or private entities to establish and operate the Pilot Program; that the Director is authorized to file all papers and execute all documents necessary to receive the funds; and that the funds are appropriated for the purposes listed in the file described below.

Section 2. That the summary, presented to the Finance Committee of this Council at a public hearing on this legislation and set forth in File No. **400-2026-A**, is made a part of this ordinance as if fully rewritten, approved in all respects, and shall not

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be materially changed without additional legislative authority. (RQS 0112, RLA 2026-40)

Section 3. That the Director of Finance, on behalf of the Office of Sustainability, is authorized to extend the term of the grant during the grant term.

Section 4. 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.

VG:uo  
3-30-26

FOR: Director O'Keeffe

**Ord. No. 400-2026**

**[File No. 400-2026-A]**

**REPORT  
after second Reading**

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**READ FIRST TIME on MARCH 30, 2026** **REPORTS**  
**and referred to DIRECTORS of the Office of Sustainability, Finance, Law;**  
**COMMITTEES on Workforce, Education, Training and Youth Development**  
**Finance, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

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CITY CLERK

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READ SECOND TIME

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CITY CLERK

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READ THIRD TIME

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PRESIDENT

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CITY CLERK

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APPROVED

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MAYOR

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PASSAGE RECOMMENDED BY  
COMMITTEE ON  
**WORKFORCE, EDUCATION,  
TRAINING and YOUTH  
DEVELOPMENT**

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