TO: Kevin J. Kelly, Chair
Committee of the Whole

FROM: Karrie D. Howard, Director
Department of Public Safety

DATE: December 6, 2021

SUBJECT: Ordinance No. 1032-2021 Authorizing the Director of Public Safety to apply for and accept a grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security for the FY20 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Program; and authorizing the purchase by one or more contracts of software and licenses for community risk assessments, including installation and implementation, and for training, support, and maintenance during the grant term

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Ordinance No. 1032-2021, if passed by Council, would authorize the Director of Public Safety to apply for and accept the FY 20 Fire Prevention & Safety Grant and to enter into one or more contracts to implement the grant. This grant will provide funding for a community risk assessment. The term of the grant is from September 1, 2021 – August 30, 2022 and the award amount of the grant is $131,428.57. There is a matching fund requirement associated with this grant in the amount of $6,571.43. The matching funds will be funded by the Fire operating budget.

The goal of the project is to complete a comprehensive community risk assessment of the City of Cleveland to help identify the various risks faced by our community; assess how our current resources, capabilities, and deployment match those risks; and highlight areas where we should focus our efforts to improve the safety and wellbeing of our community and our firefighters. We strongly believe that we must not only perform a one-time assessment, but instead must create a dynamic assessment tool to allow us to update, revisit, and refine based on our performance, the changing risk profile of our community, and the technical & operational advances in the fire service. We aim to leverage Cleveland Fire Department data as well as data from other City and County departments to increase efficiency and effectiveness across Fire's Operations and Prevention. This will enable us to build the data infrastructure and analytical capacity to support the ongoing adoption of a data-driven, decision-making and risk-based prioritization.