

**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**  
**Cleveland City Council**

<b>Ordinance No.</b>	716-2025
<b>Legislative Purpose</b>	Authorizing the Director of Community Development to enter into a contract with The Ohio State University for the purpose of implementing the soil lead testing and mitigation components of the 2025 Summer Sprouts community gardening program.
<b>Project Purpose</b>	<p>The Summer Sprouts community gardening program supports the cultivation of community gardens on eligible vacant lots throughout the City of Cleveland, including City-owned properties, nonprofit-owned land, and privately owned sites secured through lease agreements. Administered in partnership with the Ohio State University (OSU) Extension, the program engages residents in the development and maintenance of fruit and vegetable gardens that promote food access, environmental stewardship, and neighborhood revitalization.</p> <p>Gardeners receive support including roto-tilling services, vegetable seeds, plants, humus, lumber, and other materials based on the garden's needs and program status. OSU also provides technical assistance and educational programming covering topics such as garden organization, horticulture practices, pest management, food preservation, nutrition, and crop planning.</p> <p>To support environmental safety and meet new Environmental Protection Agency guidelines requiring soil lead re-testing on the majority of lots in the program, additional funds are being allocated to cover increased costs of soil lead testing and mitigation. Further, increased supply costs for garden materials and equipment necessitate additional funding to ensure all approved gardens can be properly supported throughout the growing season.</p>
<b>Grantee</b>	The Ohio State University
<b>Amount</b>	\$67,954
<b>Funding Source</b>	General Fund