



CITY OF CLEVELAND

Mayor Justin M. Bibb

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ord. No. 828-2025

June 23, 2025

The Honorable Blaine A. Griffin
President, Cleveland City Council
601 Lakeside Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114

Subject: Legislation for Introduction & Passage – July 9, 2025

Dear Council President Griffin,

We respectfully request the passage of an amendment to Ordinance No. 1249-2023 at the upcoming City Council meeting. This amendment will authorize the reallocation of \$3,000,000 in funds originally designated for the Cleveland Restoration Society (CRS) to Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity (Habitat) to support their critical home repair program.

Under Ordinance No. 1249-2023, Habitat was initially awarded \$1,500,000 to implement a home repair grant program targeting low-income homeowners in neighborhoods where Habitat is constructing new homes. These repairs are vital for stabilizing communities and addressing urgent health and safety needs—particularly for elderly and vulnerable residents.

Since the program's launch in 2024, Habitat has demonstrated strong performance. They have completed 70 of the 100 contracted repairs, with 7 projects currently underway and 9 more queued in their pipeline. Habitat is actively canvassing neighborhoods to identify eligible homeowners and is on track to expand their original allocation fully by mid-summer. To date, nearly 60% of their funds have been spent, and their work has had a demonstrable impact on housing stability in targeted areas.

The proposed amendment is made possible by discontinuing the CRS program, which was initially funded under Ordinance No. 1249-2023. CRS's program was ended following KeyBank's withdrawal of participation, making the allocated initially \$3,000,000 available for reprogramming.

This amendment removes CRS as a recipient and reallocates the funds to Habitat, enabling Habitat to expand and continue its critical repair services without disruption. The legislation also includes minor conforming changes to update the corresponding "Whereas" clause and Section 1 of Ordinance No. 712-2023 and introduces Section 5, which establishes terms for revolving loan procedures and fund returns.

We request that this amended ordinance be passed as an emergency measure to allow Habitat to maintain program momentum and promptly respond to urgent housing needs.





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If you should have any additional questions or concerns, you may contact me at (216) 664-6617.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Hernandez, Director
Department of Community Development

cc: All Members of Council
Patricia J. Britt, City Clerk, Clerk of Council
Ryan M. Puente, Chief Government Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Blaine A. Griffin, Council President

