

Ordinance No. 288-2022

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

Establishing the Center for Economic Recovery in the Office of the Mayor; and authorizing the Director of Finance to apply for and accept gifts or grants from various public or private entities to assist in the furtherance and purposes of the Office.

By Mayor Bibb

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, in the Office of the Mayor, the Center for Economic Recovery (“Center”) is established to provide strategic recommendations to the Mayor on how to use and augment funding received under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”) and other funding received from other public and private entities, and to create transformative and lasting initiatives to accelerate future growth for the City’s economy, businesses, and residents so that everyone thrives. The Center shall be led by the City’s Chief Strategy Officer and shall consist of non-City personnel, including an Executive Officer and other non-City staff as may be required for the performance of the duties of the Center, all of whom shall be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Mayor. In conformity with Civil Service provisions, the Mayor may designate City staff necessary to assist the Center. The Executive Officer shall be responsible for the supervision of the non-City staff and shall report to City’s Chief Strategy Officer and the Mayor. The Executive Officer and other non-City staff shall serve without compensation from the City.

Section 2. That the Center shall assist the City by providing the following services:

- (a) Evaluating ARPA funding proposals and rigorously and fairly recommending proposals;
- (b) Assessing and reporting on economic trends and impacts to inform relief and recovery policies and programs;
- (c) Collaborating and engaging with public entities, private entities, and residents to develop the strategic planning and recommendations described below;
- (d) Providing recommendations on revising any current policies and practices that are needed to encourage and incentivize further business growth, and any other recommendations;
- (e) Assisting with compliance and reporting requirements under ARPA and other public funding programs;
- (f) Soliciting grants or gifts on behalf of the City to accelerate future growth to the City’s economy and businesses; and
- (g) Any other responsibility requested by the Mayor.

Ordinance No. 288-2022

Section 3. That any recommendations or guidance shall be in writing and become a part of the records of the Mayor's office.

Section 4. That the Director of Finance is authorized to apply for and accept from various entities, both public and private, such grants and gifts that are to be used for personnel, equipment, travel and other operating costs for the Center or that the Center solicits under division (f) of Section 2; provided that such gifts may be in the form of money, material, or services. The Director of Finance is further authorized to file all papers and execute all agreements and documents necessary to receive the funds under any grant or gift. Upon acceptance of any grant or gift by the Director of Finance, the funds shall be appropriated in the case of grants, for the purposes set forth in the grant agreement, and in the case of gifts, for the purposes designated by the donors.

The Director of Finance shall report the acceptance of any grant or gift to the Clerk of Council.

The funds accepted under this section shall be deposited to the appropriate fund, as determined by the Director of Finance, or a subfund created for any gift that is limited by the donor's conditions.

Any expenditures from the fund or subfunds described in this Section 4 shall be made on vouchers signed by the Director of Finance, on behalf of the Center, when the amount is less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00); otherwise such expenditure shall first be authorized by ordinance of Council in accordance with the Charter and Codified Ordinances of Cleveland, Ohio, 1976.

Section 5. That the Director of Public Works, or other appropriate Director, is authorized to provide office space, office equipment, and supplies, if needed, for the Center.

Section 6. That the Center shall continue until otherwise determined by the Mayor.

Section 7. 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:nl
3-21-2022
FOR: Mayor Bibb

