

Mayor's Office of Sustainability and the Department of Finance

Ordinance No.: 1321 - 2024

Legislative Summary

The Director of Finance is requesting authority on behalf of the Mayor's Office of Sustainability to accept in-kind capacity support of three personnel provided through participation in the Bloomberg American Sustainable Cities (BASC) Program, as well as acceptance of \$120,000 for the reimbursement of expenses other than personnel support, related to this Program. Cleveland is one of 25 cities nationally to be accepted into this Program.

The Department of Finance in collaboration with the Mayor's Office of Sustainability, is proposing legislation to authorize the city to accept in-kind support provided through its participation in the Bloomberg American Sustainable Cities cohort that support cities. In addition to the in-kind support, we request to accept \$120,000 for additional project expenses directly related to the work for the BASC Innovation Team. This cohort will allow the city to implement policies and programs that will set new standards for innovative and resilient solutions for historically pollution burdened communities. This is a multi-year initiative that also includes specific customized technical assistance to design, develop, and implement solutions that address climate change inequity from various communal collaborative efforts.

As part of these efforts, Bloomberg Philanthropies will support three staff members, at no cost to the city, through April 2027 to provide additional capacity through skills varying from data analysis, policy development, systems expertise, and project management, including human centered-design efforts. These three staff – known as the Innovation Team -- will collaborate with various city department staff and community partners to design, pilot, and launch effective solutions that concretely drive climate mitigating deliverables that increase equitable outcomes, in alignment with Cleveland's climate action planning efforts.

In partnership with the Bloomberg Center for Public Innovation at Johns Hopkins University, PolicyLink, Natural Resources Defense Council, Delivery Associates, and the Sustainable Cities Fund, Bloomberg Philanthropies will provide additional support to cities to pursue transformative solutions together with community partners that address long-term solutions together with community partners that address long-term solution combating climate change.