

city of
CINCINNATI
CINCINNATI, OHIO

FY 2025
**APPROVED
ALL FUNDS
BUDGET UPDATE**

BUDGET IN BRIEF





BUDGET IN BRIEF

The mission of the City of Cincinnati is through collaboration with our community and partners, we will work to preserve and improve our residents' lives by delivering effective, friendly, and efficient services.

OVERVIEW

The City of Cincinnati's Approved FY 2025 Budget in Brief is designed to help the residents of Cincinnati and the general public gain a better understanding of the City's budget. The document presents general information on the City and the public services it provides. It also outlines the operating budget revenues and expenditures as well as the capital budget resources and investments.

As the economy continues to rebound from the pandemic, the City's financial state is strengthening, and service delivery is improving. This budget pushes for further investments in innovative solutions to enhance service delivery, increase economic development, support the development of city staff, and strengthen information technology and capital infrastructure.

Due to a combination of increased projected revenues and carefully managing growth on ongoing expenses, the FY 2025 Budget Update is structurally balanced for all ongoing operating expenses. For the first time since the pandemic, the City budget does not need to rely on American Rescue Plan (ARP) resources to cover its ongoing operating expenses. While these are positive trends for FY 2025, the forecast for FY 2026-2029 still shows expenditures growing at a faster pace than revenues. Therefore, we still need to address this structural imbalance by increasing revenues and managing the growth of expenses.

This Budget aims to strike a balance between investments in growth and sustainability and living within the resources we have available. This Budget promotes public safety and economic

growth opportunities, maintains investment in our neighborhoods, and improves the quality-of-service delivery and fiscal sustainability. Select Approved FY 2025 Budget Update highlights include:

Operating

- Three 50 member Police recruit classes, one slated to graduate in August 2024, one slated to begin in October 2024, and one slated to begin in May 2025
- Two 50 member Fire recruit classes, one slated to graduate in September 2024 and one slated to begin in October 2024
- \$5,365,000 investment in leveraged support funding across 42 organizations and/or initiatives in the City
- Continued support of the Department of Buildings & Inspections to expand and improve code enforcement and continue the Building Inspector Training Academy
- 4.0 FTEs added to the Emergency Communications Center for a new Community Responder Program to support the continued success of 311Cincy

Capital

- Officially launching the Cincy on Track (COT) initiative to ensure the transparency of the expenditure of proceeds received from the sale of the Cincinnati Southern Railway
- \$13.0 million for Street Rehabilitation to rehabilitate 23 lane miles of pavement & perform preventative maintenance on 19 lane miles
- \$8.6 million for deferred capital maintenance at City facilities*
- \$4.4 million toward Economic Development Initiatives
- \$3.0 million total for Neighborhood Business District Improvements
- \$1.9 million for Affordable Housing Trust Funding
- \$1.0 million allocated for Community Budget Requests
- \$0.5 million for Pedestrian Safety/Major Street Calming

*The deferred capital maintenance amount only includes projects in the Department of Public Services City Facility Management Division.

The Budget in Brief is intended to be a quick reference guide. For more information on the Approved FY 2025 Budget Update, please visit <https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/budget/>.

CINCINNATI AT A GLANCE

BASIC CITY FACTS

Founded: 1788
Incorporated: March 1, 1819
Area: 79.54 sq./mi
Government Type:
Mayor-Council
Mayor: Aftab Pureval
Population: 308,664

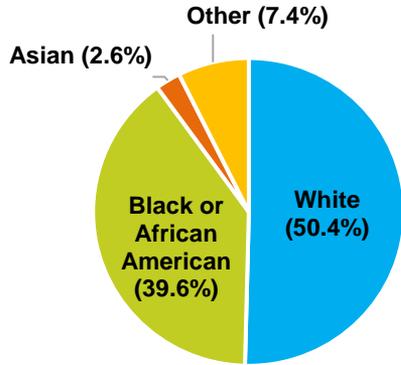
REGIONAL MAJOR EMPLOYERS

The Kroger Co.
Cincinnati Children's Hospital
TriHealth Inc.
University of Cincinnati
Procter & Gamble
St. Elizabeth Healthcare
UC Health
GE Aerospace
Mercy Health - Cincinnati
Fifth Third Bank

REGIONAL HOSPITALS

The Christ Hospital
Mercy Health (West)
Cincinnati Children's Hospital
Good Samaritan Hospital
Bethesda North Hospital
University of Cincinnati Medical Center
Cincinnati Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Jewish Hospital Mercy Health
Mercy Health Anderson Hosp.
Summit Behavioral Healthcare

DEMOGRAPHICS



LAND USE (SQ/MI)

Residential: 28.67
Industrial: 4.50
Institutional/Educational: 6.60
Commercial: 5.60
Publicly Owned: 19.68
Vacant: 4.70
Other: 9.79

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Cincinnati Public Schools: 69
Charter Schools: 39
Private Schools: 125
Higher Education: 15



SERVICE STATISTICS ⁽¹⁾

UTILITIES

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Water Customers | 241,500 |
| Sewer Customers | 232,000 |
| Service Area | 290+ sq. miles |
| Pump Stations | 100+ |
| Garbage (tons per year) | 74,840 |
| Recycling (tons per year) | 13,668 |

STREETS, SIDEWALKS & BRIDGES

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Paved Lane Miles | 2,910 |
| Sidewalk Square Feet | 45,930,205 |
| Bridges | 71 |
| Street Lights ² | 10,000 |
| Traffic Signs | 800 |

CITY-OWNED FACILITIES MAINTAINED ³

FLEET (# OF UNITS)

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Patients | 42,679 |
| Visits | 149,514 |
| Food Facilities Inspections | 27,165 |

PUBLIC SAFETY ^(4,5)

Police

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Sworn | 1,059.00 |
| Civilian Employees | 189.00 |
| Neighborhood Police Districts | 5 |

Fire

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Sworn | 859.00 |
| Civilian Employees | 45.00 |
| Fire Districts | 4 |
| Fire Stations | 26 |

Emergency Communications Center

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| ECC Employees | 161.19 |
| ETS Employees | 4.00 |

¹ Information as of FY 2023 unless otherwise specified.

² Approximate number of streetlights maintained by the City of Cincinnati.

³ Number of facilities maintained by the Department of Public Services Division of City Facility Management (CFM). Does not include board-owned facilities or enterprise facilities (i.e. Health, Parks, Recreation, Metropolitan Sewer District, or Greater Cincinnati Water Works facilities.)

⁴ Information from Approved FY 2025 Budget Update.

⁵ Emergency Communications Center (ECC) includes ECC employees as well as Enterprise Technology Solutions (ETS) employees assigned to ECC.

CITY FACTS



34 speed cushions installed throughout the City to improve pedestrian safety



9 City facilities with rooftop solar arrays



1,420 properties protected through the Sewer Backup Prevention Program



4,924 Parks volunteers



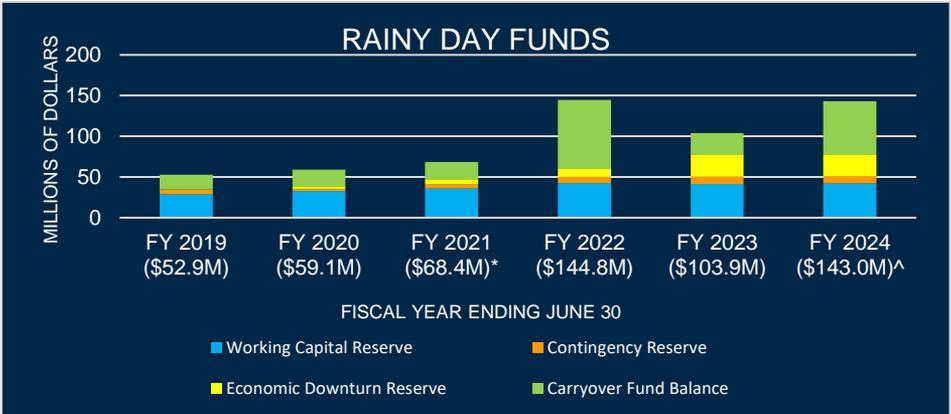
33 pools and spraygrounds



Over **400** Special Event Permits issued for all event types

RAINY DAY FUNDS

The City’s Stabilization Funds Policy was established in 2015 and was amended in 2019. The amended policy establishes a goal of setting aside 16.7% of general operating revenues as reserves. On March 9, 2022, the City Council further amended this policy to provide a more detailed breakdown for the uses under the one-time expenditures category in the policy, referred to as the “Waterfall Funding Mechanism”. At the end of Fiscal Year 2024, the carryover balance was \$65.0 million.



*The FY 2021 Rainy Day Funds total does not include the \$50.0 million set aside in the Income Tax Reserve for Refunds.

^The FY 2024 Rainy Day Funds total does not include any transfers related to the FY 2024 closeout process.

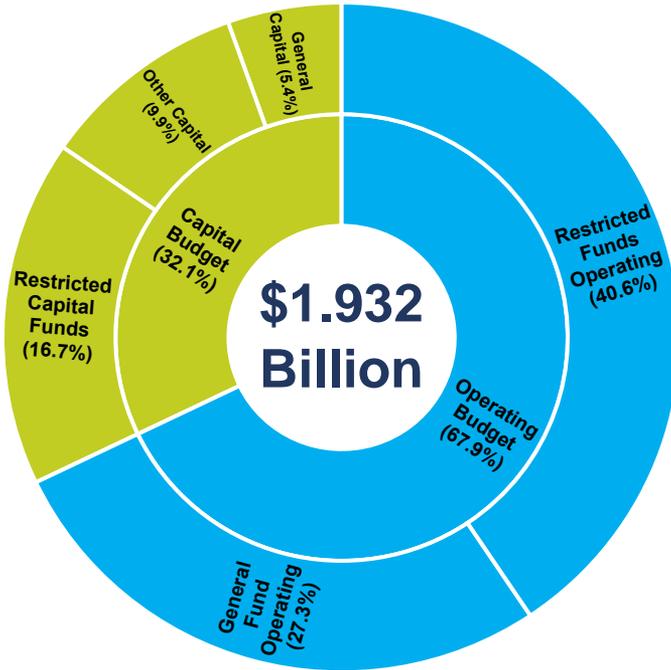
MILLAGE AND PROPERTY TAX

Property tax is subdivided into two components, one for General Fund operating purposes and one for debt requirements for the Capital Improvement Program. The CY 2025 Property Tax rate is 6.1 mills for General Fund operating purposes and 7.5 mills for debt requirements for the Capital Improvement Program.



| Total Assessed Value | \$178,900 | \$500,000 | \$1,000,000 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| CY 2025 – 13.6 mills per \$1,000 | \$2,433 | \$6,800 | \$13,600 |
| CY 2024 – 13.64 mills per \$1,000 | \$2,440 | \$6,820 | \$13,640 |
| CY 2023 – 12.34 mills per \$1,000 | \$2,208 | \$6,170 | \$12,340 |
| CY 2022 – 11.47 mills per \$1,000 | \$2,052 | \$5,735 | \$11,470 |
| CY 2021 – 12.69 mills per \$1,000 | \$2,270 | \$6,345 | \$12,690 |

ALL FUNDS EXPENDITURE BUDGET

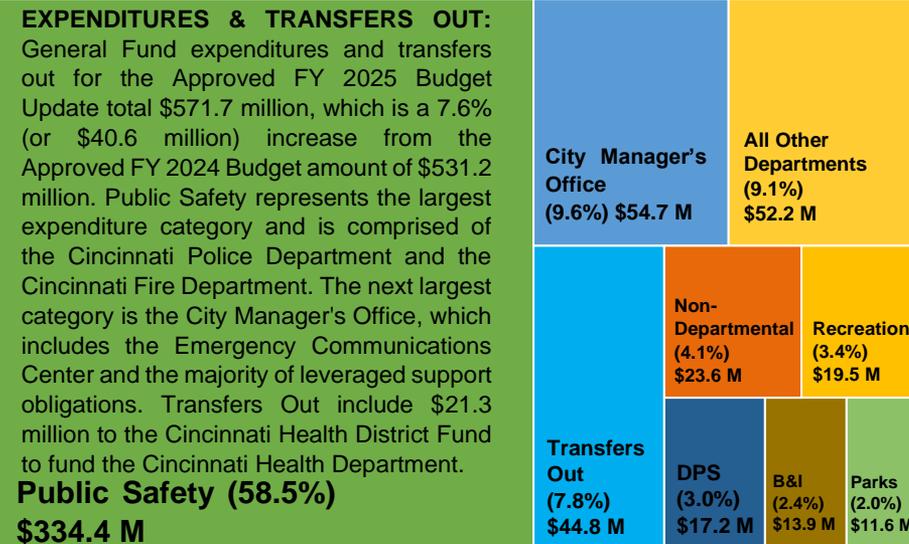
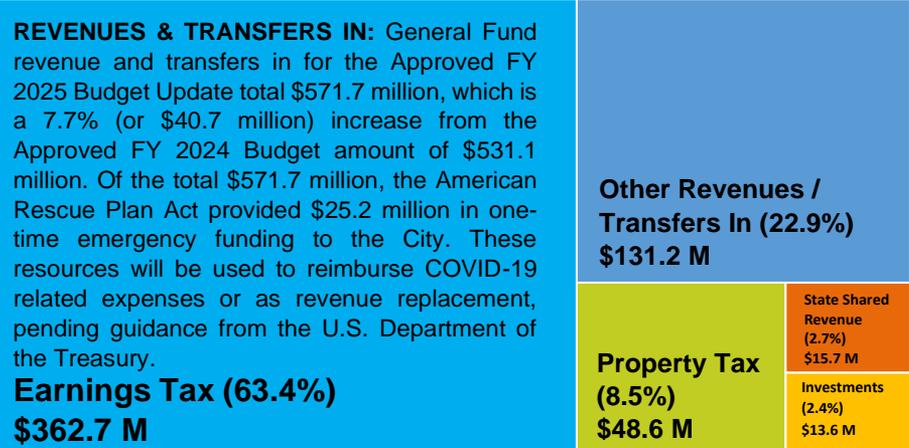


OPERATING BUDGET – \$1.311 B (67.9%): The City’s Operating Budget includes personnel compensation and fringe benefit costs, leveraged support, and daily operating expenses such as building leases, gasoline, contractual services, etc. The Operating Budget is funded primarily through an Earnings Tax, Property Tax, and State Shared Revenue as well as other smaller sources. The Operating Budget is comprised of the General Fund (40.2%) and Restricted Funds (59.8%).

CAPITAL BUDGET – \$620.5 M (32.1%): The City’s Capital Budget provides resources for major infrastructure improvements, such as roads, public buildings, water and sewer infrastructure, as well as the vehicles and equipment needed to support City services. The Capital Budget consists of General Capital (16.9%), Restricted Capital Funds (52.1%), and other capital resources, which includes Special Revenue Capital Funds as well as Grants and Matching Funds (30.9%).

GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET

In governmental accounting, the General Fund is the primary operating fund and accounts for 40.2% of the Approved FY 2025 All Funds Operating Budget Update. Many of the daily functions of a municipality are supported by the General Fund. Below are graphical representations and descriptions of General Fund Revenue and General Fund Expenditures by category.

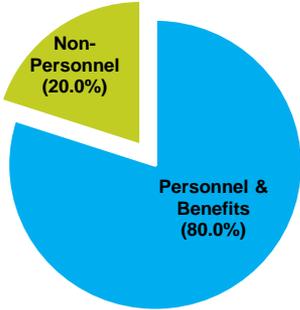


Note: Department of Buildings and Inspections is represented as "B&I" and Department of Public Services is represented as "DPS".

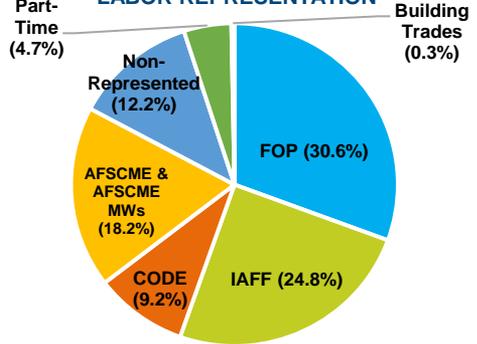
PERSONNEL

Personnel is a major component of the operating budget. Employee wages and fringe benefits account for 80.0% of the General Fund Budget with 87.8% of General Fund employees represented by labor contracts. Further, public safety employees account for 66.0% of all General Fund positions.

GENERAL FUND PERSONNEL VS. NON-PERSONNEL EXPENDITURES



GENERAL FUND EMPLOYEE LABOR REPRESENTATION



The Approved FY 2025 Budget Update does not include the displacement or layoff of City employees. Most increases are in the General Fund and the Restricted Funds show a smaller net increase. Staffing increases in various departments focus on improving efficiency and service delivery for programs and activities such as a Community Responders team in the Emergency Communications Center, a Special Projects team Satellite Office in the Department of Buildings & Inspections, and second shift staffing for Smale Riverfront Park in the Cincinnati Parks Department. FTE changes by funds are outlined below.

APPROVED FY 2025 FTE CHANGES

| | General Fund | Restricted Funds | All Funds |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Approved FY 2024 | 3,444.14 | 2,847.97 | 6,292.11 |
| Increases | 48.46 | 34.52 | 76.40 |
| Decreases | (1.81) | (7.55) | (2.78) |
| Approved FY 2025 | 3,490.79 | 2,874.94 | 6,365.73 |

LEVERAGED SUPPORT

| ARTS | |
|---|--------------------|
| Art Opportunities, Inc. (dba ArtWorks) | \$150,000 |
| ArtsWave Black and Brown Artists Fund* | \$25,000 |
| Cincinnati Institute of Fine Arts (dba ArtsWave) | \$50,000 |
| Q-Kidz | \$50,000 |
| The Children's Theatre of Cincinnati, Inc. | \$50,000 |
| TOTAL ARTS | \$325,000 |
| ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT | |
| All-In Cincinnati Equity Coalition | \$50,000 |
| Cincinnati Compass | \$50,000 |
| CincyTech* | \$250,000 |
| Cintrifuse* | \$225,000 |
| Invest in Neighborhoods* | \$75,000 |
| Greater Cincinnati & Northern Kentucky Film Commission (dba Film Cincinnati)* | \$125,000 |
| MORTAR Cincinnati* | \$90,000 |
| REDI Cincinnati | \$250,000 |
| TOTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT | \$1,115,000 |
| ENVIRONMENT | |
| Keep Cincinnati Beautiful (KCB) | \$275,000 |
| Adopt-a-Spot (Keep Cincinnati Beautiful (KCB))* | \$60,000 |
| Green Umbrella | \$100,000 |
| TOTAL ENVIRONMENT | \$435,000 |
| EQUITY AND INCLUSION | |
| Activities Beyond the Classroom* | \$100,000 |
| Cincinnati Youth Collaborative* | \$100,000 |
| Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky African American Chamber of Commerce | \$350,000 |
| Joy Outdoor Education Center (dba Camp Joy) | \$75,000 |
| LADD* | \$25,000 |
| Santa Maria Community Services | \$125,000 |
| The Health Collaborative* | \$50,000 |
| TOTAL EQUITY AND INCLUSION | \$825,000 |
| HOMELESSNESS AND EVICTION PREVENTION | |
| Bethany House Services* | \$165,000 |
| Cincinnati Center City Development (3CDC) | \$75,000 |
| Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) Project Connect | \$100,000 |
| Cincy Smiles* | \$25,000 |
| Lighthouse Youth & Family Services, Inc. (dba Lighthouse Youth & Family Services) | \$125,000 |
| Shelterhouse Volunteer Group | \$325,000 |
| St. Vincent de Paul District Council of Cincinnati | \$150,000 |
| TOTAL HOMELESSNESS AND EVICTION PREVENTION | \$965,000 |
| HUMAN SERVICES AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION | |
| Center for Addiction Treatment | \$100,000 |
| Center for Closing the Health Gap* | \$750,000 |
| Immigrant and Refugee Law Center | \$50,000 |
| Produce Perks Midwest, Inc. | \$75,000 |
| La Soupe, Inc. | \$50,000 |
| Last Mile Food Rescue* | \$50,000 |
| Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio | \$100,000 |
| TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION | \$1,175,000 |
| WORKFORCE PROGRAMMING AND POVERTY REDUCTION | |
| Big Brothers Big Sisters* | \$50,000 |
| Cincinnati Works, Inc.* | \$225,000 |
| Groundwork Ohio River Valley* | \$100,000 |
| The Literacy Lab* | \$100,000 |
| YWCA of Greater Cincinnati | \$50,000 |
| TOTAL WORKFORCE PROGRAMMING AND POVERTY REDUCTION | \$525,000 |
| GRAND TOTAL | \$5,365,000 |

*Denotes full or partial one-time funding

The new leveraged support definition, outlined in Report No. 202300318, does not include City funding of third parties to perform elements of City operations or when the City provides a grant to a third-party to facilitate a competitive process for allocating funding through a City program. The Approved FY 2025 Budget Update includes \$14,637,680 for City Operations Programmatic Support and Recipients.

CITY ADMINISTERED PROGRAMS

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Career Pathways Program ¹ | \$1,185,370 |
| Community Urban Agriculture | \$20,000 |
| Green Cincinnati Fund | \$100,000 |
| Hackathon | \$20,000 |
| Keep Cincinnati Beautiful | \$200,000 |
| Needle Exchange Program | \$150,000 |
| Neighborhood Business Districts | \$120,000 |
| Summer Youth Jobs Initiative - CRC Portion | \$250,000 |
| WarmUp Cincy | \$350,000 |

TOTAL CITY ADMINISTERED PROGRAMS \$2,395,370

CONTRACTS FOR CITY ASSETS AND PROGRAMS

| | |
|--|-------------|
| 3CDC (For Fountain Square) ² | \$100,000 |
| 3CDC (Operating Support for Washington Park and Ziegler Park) ² | \$475,000 |
| Boots on the Ground Fund Program ³ | \$650,000 |
| City Human Services Fund (administered by United Way) | \$8,550,700 |
| Findlay Market Operating Budget Support | \$366,610 |
| Neighborhood Support Programs / Community Councils ³ | \$550,000 |
| Safe and Clean ³ | \$500,000 |
| The Port (formerly Greater Cincinnati Redevelopment Authority/Port Authority of Greater Cincinnati) ³ | \$800,000 |
| Women Helping Women Domestic Violence Enhance Response Team (WHW DVERT) | \$250,000 |

TOTAL CONTRACTS FOR CITY ASSETS AND PROGRAMS \$12,242,310

GRAND TOTAL \$14,637,680

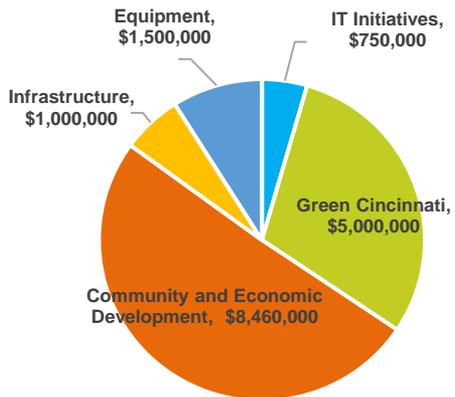
¹Includes \$110,370 for a Police Young Adult Cadet Program and \$75,000 for a Youth Manager’s Advisory Group.

²Resources for 3CDC are estimated and may be offset by civic space revenue.

³Denotes partial or full one-time funding in FY 2025.

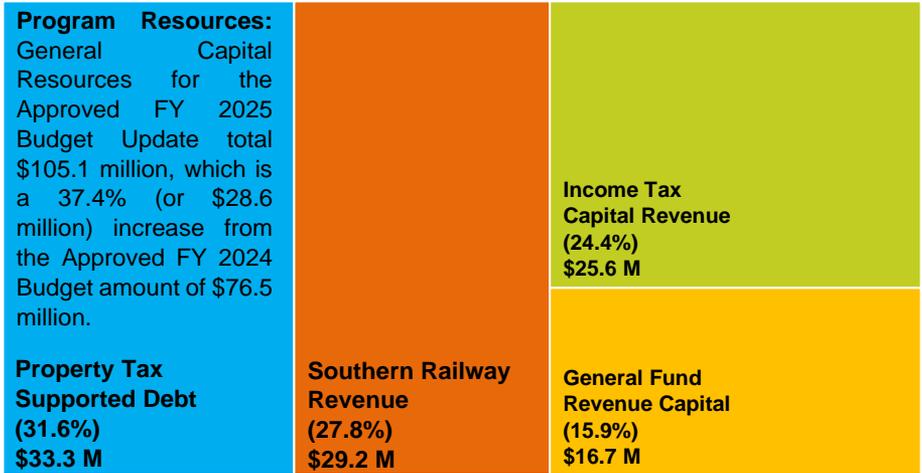
GENERAL FUND TRANSFER TO CAPITAL BUDGET

\$16.7 million in General Fund resources are transferred out to the capital budget. These resources are available due to General Fund revenue replacement from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act.



GENERAL CAPITAL BUDGET

A capital improvement project is defined as the improvement of an existing City asset that increases the value of the public asset or extends its useful life or the purchase of a new City asset. For a project to be considered in the Capital Budget, it must be more than \$5,000 and have a useful life of at least five years. Below are graphical representations of General Capital Resources and General Capital Expenditures by category.



Not shown: Miscellaneous Other Revenue, 0.2%, \$250,000.



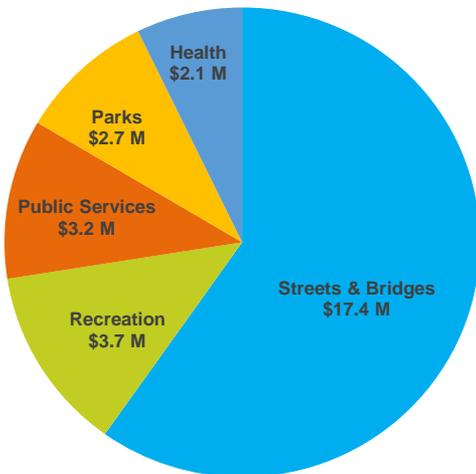
RESTRICTED AND SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS CAPITAL BUDGET

The Approved FY 2025 Restricted and Special Revenue Funds Capital Budget totals \$323.9 million, which represents a \$127.4 million increase from the Approved FY 2024 Restricted and Special Revenue Funds Capital Budget Update of \$196.5 million.

| APPROVED FY 2025 CAPITAL BUDGET RESTRICTED & SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS | |
|---|-----------------------|
| RESTRICTED FUNDS | |
| Metropolitan Sewer District Capital Improvements | 249,044,548 |
| Water Works PIF | 73,935,000 |
| General Aviation | 340,000 |
| Stormwater Management | 200,000 |
| Telecommunications | 30,000 |
| TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS | \$ 323,549,548 |
| SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS | |
| Special Housing PIF | 399,000 |
| TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS | \$ 399,000 |
| GRAND TOTAL | \$ 323,948,548 |

CINCY ON TRACK

At the general election on November 7, 2023, Cincinnati voters approved the sale of the Cincinnati Southern Railway system for approximately \$1.6 billion to Norfolk Southern Railway Company. Prior to the sale, leasing of the Cincinnati Southern Railway generated approximately \$26.5 million annually to fund existing infrastructure improvements. On March 15, 2024, the Rail Board closed on the sale of the Cincinnati Southern Railway, with the proceeds from the sale being placed in a trust with annual disbursements paid to the City for existing infrastructure improvements, starting in FY 2026.



Cincy on Track includes five main categories: Streets & Bridges, Parks, Recreation, Health, and Public Services.

For FY 2025, revenue generated by certain contractual payments from Norfolk Southern to the Rail Board are included in the Approved FY 2025 Capital Budget Update, totaling \$29.2 million.

For more detailed information about Cincy on Track, please visit bit.ly/cincyontrack

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS HIGHLIGHTS



PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH

- The Cincinnati Fire Department launched a peer support system to provide mental health assistance to its members.
- The Law Department provided key support to the City's gun violence reduction initiatives, by advising, drafting legislation, and filling a lawsuit against the State of Ohio.
- CPD has increased traffic enforcement and saw a reduction of over 2,000 auto accidents since 2021.



GROWING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

- The Office of Procurement provided opportunities to small business by breaking apart long standing single vendor contracts into smaller multi-award contracts.
- The City released its Financial Freedom Blueprint to address the racial wealth gap in Cincinnati.



THRIVING NEIGHBORHOODS

- The City increased its purchase of locally produced renewable energy when the final sections of the New Market solar array were completed.
- The Department of City Planning and Engagement's Connected Communities policy was passed by City Council.
- The Cincinnati Recreation Commission expanded programming and services for teens and youth.



FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

- The City received affirmed strong credit rating of AA and Aa2.
- The Fleet garage slab replacement project addressed concrete deterioration and increased the strength of the floor slab to allow for modern day equipment and trucks to be serviced at the City's Fleet garage that was built in 1954.



EXCELLENT & EQUITABLE SERVICE DELIVERY

- The Office of Communications established and led the work of a team through thorough engagement internally and externally on the City's updated Engagement Policy.
- The Greater Cincinnati Water Works implemented an improved communications system to notify customers of water main breaks, leaks, and traffic impacts of distribution incidents.

