



**Evan Nolan**  
Councilmember

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## **Councilmember Evan Nolan Budget Priorities for FY27 Recommended Budget Update**

To maintain and enhance our city's path to more equitable and sustainable growth, we must further invest in our neighborhoods and our neighbors, specifically our youth, by providing the necessary resources for proper workforce and workplace development. By growing our tax base and expanding economic opportunities, we can empower our residents and ensure long-term, sustained growth for all of Cincinnati. The following considerations should be top priorities for the FY27 City Budget Update:

### **Capital Budget:**

- An expedited process for more effective deployment of **Cincy on Track** funds.
- Assessing and restructuring the existing housing and economic development tools and funding sources, including those listed below, into a more consolidated and flexible structure under management of the City's new Office of Strategic Growth and in partnership with Cincinnati Development Fund:
  - o Tax Increment Financing Districts (TIF Districts)
  - o Voluntary Tax Incentive Contribution Agreement Program (VTICA)
  - o Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program (NBDIP)
  - o Neighborhood Business District Support Fund
  - o Neighborhood Catalytic Capital Improvement Program (NCCIP)
  - o Catalytic Neighborhood Futures Fund
  - o Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)
  - o "Quick Strike" Acquisition & Project Funding
  - o Affordable Housing Leverage Fund
- Such restructured tools and funding should create more efficient access and greater availability to our development partners, including community development corporations and other neighborhood organizations, to activate economic development and new housing in neighborhoods across the city in support of the following areas:
  - o Neighborhood Business Districts
  - o Affordable Housing, specifically the Affordable Housing Leverage Fund
  - o Preserving and creating more homeownership and closing the home ownership gap

- Low-income areas
- Where development is not naturally occurring without public subsidy
- Where there are no TIF Districts or VTICA funds or
- Where TIF Districts or VTICAs are not producing sufficient revenue
- Along major transit corridors
- Across the life cycle of a development project from site acquisition and pre-development costs through gap financing, completed construction, and ongoing stabilization
- Nonprofit capital expenditures
- Projects with revenue-enhancing returns, such as the Farmer's Music Center project

**Operating Budget:**

- Funding to ensure adequate staffing and proper resources for the necessary programs in the **Office of Strategic Growth**.
- Alignment of appropriate resources to fully fund the **Department of Opportunity & Resident Services**.
- Necessary funding for the **Department of City Planning and Engagement** to sustainably fund the neighborhood planning cycle.
- Continued implementation of competitive pay schedules in the **Law Department** to retain and attract talent.
- Providing initial investment to launch the Vacant Building Registry in the **Department of Buildings and Inspections**.
- Continued and expanded implementation of **Cincinnati Financial Freedom Blueprint** recommendations, such as the Child Savings Accounts program and Access to Counsel.