

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS  
AS APPROVED BY ANN ARBOR CITY COUNCIL  
ON MAY 20, 2024**

**Amendment 1**

**Amendment to Appropriate \$100,000 to the FY 2025 General Fund Budget for Professional Services for Zoning Changes**

Whereas, Housing affordability, sustainability in the built environment, and carbon neutrality are issues of extreme importance to the Ann Arbor community;

Whereas, On April 1, the Ann Arbor City Council approved a suite of Economic Development resolutions (R-24-108; R-24-109; R-24-110; R-24-111), to support housing affordability, support sustainability in the built environment, pursue improvements in the tax base, and create opportunities for placemaking, all of which are critical for bolstering the city's commitment to carbon neutrality and the high quality of life enjoyed by residents and visitors to the Ann Arbor community;

Whereas, Implementing this suite of Economic Development resolutions will require extensive changes to City zoning and land use policy that the City Planning Department will need to hire outside consultants to deliver in a timely manner; and

Whereas, A one-time increase in professional services funds of \$100,000 would support timely delivery of zoning and land use changes pursuant to Economic Development resolutions R-24-108; R-24-109; R-24-110; R-24-111;

RESOLVED, That City Council appropriates one-time funding in FY 2025 in the amount of \$100,000 from the General Fund fund balance to the General Fund Planning Department expenditure budget for the purpose of professional services for zoning changes.

Sponsors: Disch, Cornell and Eyer

**Approved on a Voice Vote.**

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**Amendment 2**

**Amendment to Convert City Planner 1 Position to City Planner 5 and Appropriate \$20,812 to the General Fund FY 2025 Budget**

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor is undergoing a review and update of its Comprehensive Land Use plan to advance highly-valued community priorities of housing affordability, sustainability in the built environment, and carbon neutrality;

Whereas, The Comprehensive Land Use plan update will recommend changes to City zoning and land use policy whose timely implementation will exceed the current staff capacity of the City Planning Department;

Whereas, In FY24 two experienced (Level 5) staff members retired from the Planning Department, and the City Administrator's proposed budget provides for a revenue-neutral replacement of these positions by three new FTEs at Level 1;

Whereas, Upgrading one of the three new FTEs provided to the Planning Department from Level I to Level V would provide necessary additional expertise to prepare Planning Staff to design and implement changes pursuant to the Comprehensive Land Use update; and

Whereas, The City Planner 5 position is anticipated to increase Planning revenues by \$20,812;

RESOLVED, That City Council approve converting an existing City Planner 1 position to a City Planner 5 position on a recurring basis in the FY 2025 budget; and

RESOLVED, That City Council appropriate \$20,812 to the General Fund Planning Department revenue and expenditure budget with the source of revenue being an additional \$10,000 in site plan revenue, \$7,000 in zoning compliance permit revenue and \$3,812 in planned unit development revenue.

Sponsors: Disch, Cornell and Eyer

**Approved on a Voice Vote.**

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### **Amendment 3**

#### **Amendment to Appropriate \$500,000 from FY 2025 Marijuana Excise Tax Rebate to Eviction Prevention and Low-Income Youth Services**

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor and the Ann Arbor Housing Commission allocate funding to community-based organizations for the purpose of delivering important human services;

Whereas, There is \$1,000,000 in unallocated revenue from Marijuana Excise Tax Rebate funds in the General Fund fund balance;

Whereas, In 2021 City Council resolved in [R-21-098](#) to allocate this revenue "for such purposes specifically related to restorative and alternative strategies for public safety and community support;"

Whereas, There is an immediate and underfunded need for eviction protection and youth services in the City and County, felt acutely by low income and BIPOC communities;

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor dedicated \$1,000,000 from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for housing our homeless and \$1,682,230 towards Washtenaw County's New Human Services Partnership for basic safety net services in April 2022 ([R-22-096](#)), to be spent by 2026;

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor is the only municipal partner contributing general fund dollars to Washtenaw County's New Human Services Partnership despite increasing demands on social service agency providers;

Whereas, The City is engaged with Washtenaw County to allocate, through the New Human Services Partnership High Impact Grant program, up to \$330,000 in 5-year commitments, to organizations with the goals of impacting Poverty, Racism and Trauma; and

Whereas, The City seeks to build on that effort, providing further funding for eviction prevention and youth services;

RESOLVED, That City Council appropriates \$500,000 of Marijuana Excise Tax Rebate funds from the General Fund fund balance to the FY 2025 General Fund Ann Arbor Housing Commission budget on a one-time basis for FY 2025 as follows:

- \$250,000 for eviction prevention
- \$250,000 for low-income youth services; and

RESOLVED, That the amounts authorized herein may be used without regard to fiscal year;

RESOLVED, That City Council directs the City Administrator to distribute the funds to the Ann Arbor Housing Development Corporation and that subsequent to the distribution, the Ann Arbor Housing Development Corporation and the City will enter into a Grant Agreement detailing the reporting mechanism for how the funds will be distributed;

RESOLVED, That the Ann Arbor Housing Development Corporation may use up to five percent (5%) of the aforementioned funds for administrative costs related to providing eviction prevention and low-income youth services; and

RESOLVED, That the City conduct a gap analysis report for Council that evaluates eviction prevention and youth services funding in light of County social services spending to determine future funding allocations.

Sponsors: Cornell, Briggs, Ghazi Edwin, Watson, Akmon, Eyer, Song, Radina, Disch, Harrison, and Mayor Taylor

**Approved on a Voice Vote.**

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#### **Amendment 4**

#### **Amendment to Appropriate \$500,000 from the Marijuana Excise Tax to the Rising Hope for Housing Program**

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor currently allocates \$400,000 of its Marijuana Excise Tax revenue to fund the Rising Hope for Housing program, which supports organizations in Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County that assist returning citizens;

Whereas, The Rising Hope for Housing program has been instrumental in providing trauma-informed services, actively promoting public safety, decreasing recidivism and reducing long-term incarceration costs;

Whereas, The Rising Hope for Housing program effectively addresses the unique challenges faced by individuals exiting the criminal legal system, such as stigma, limited employment opportunities, and past traumas, thereby enhancing their integration into society;

Whereas, The effectiveness of the Rising Hope for Housing program in targeting high-risk individuals helps in maintaining a focused approach that maximizes the use of funds and prevents dilution of service impact;

Whereas, The Rising Hope for Housing program supports equity and justice by aiding those disproportionately affected by the criminal legal system and the War on Drugs, particularly communities of color and low-income individuals;

Whereas, The Washtenaw County Jail participates in a special program partnership with the Michigan Department of Corrections and the Michigan State Housing Development

Authority (MSHDA), receiving housing vouchers designated for inmates transitioning back into the community;

Whereas, There are plans to increase the number of voucher recipients within this program;

Whereas, The anticipated increase in voucher recipients is expected to lead to a higher demand for comprehensive support services;

Whereas, The Rising Hope for Housing program's use of Marijuana Excise Tax funds represents a unique and sustainable funding opportunity to support underfunded organizations and services that are crucial for societal well-being;

Whereas, The high cost of housing within Ann Arbor and a limited number of affordable rental units make it challenging for many returning citizens to afford living in the city, yet their employment and economic activities in Ann Arbor contribute to the local economy and their wellbeing is tied to the City's prosperity;

Whereas, Historically, enforcement of drug-related laws by Ann Arbor's police force included arresting individuals who lived outside the city limits, which implicates the City in the responsibility to support their reintegration irrespective of their current residence;

Whereas, Supporting returning citizens who may reside in neighboring communities but work in Ann Arbor ensures a broader and more effective regional approach to public safety and economic stability, which benefits all communities involved, including Ann Arbor;

Whereas, The Rising Hope for Housing program is uniquely designed to address the specific needs and challenges faced by individuals directly impacted by the criminal legal system, who require specialized trauma-informed services to effectively reintegrate into society;

Whereas, Diluting the focus of the Rising Hope for Housing program to include a broader at-risk population could reduce the intensity and efficacy of services provided to returning citizens, thereby undermining the program's proven success in significantly reducing recidivism rates and aiding those most in need of support; and

Whereas, Concentrating resources on those who have been directly affected by the criminal legal system ensures that the Marijuana Excise Tax revenue is used in a targeted manner that aligns with the principles of restorative justice and maximizes the positive impacts of these funds on individual lives and community safety;

RESOLVED, That this additional funding will be used to expand and enhance the services provided to returning citizens, ensuring that the Rising Hope for Housing program can meet the increased demand anticipated from the new jail voucher program;

RESOLVED, That City Council appropriates \$500,000 of the Marijuana Excise Tax Rebate from the General Fund fund balance to the FY 2025 General Fund Ann Arbor Housing Commission budget on a one-time basis as follows:

- \$500,000 for the Rising Hope for Housing Program and its Trauma Informed Supportive Services including Case Management Services prioritizing individuals impacted by the Criminal Legal System with Tenant-Based Housing Choice Vouchers, including returning citizens.

RESOLVED, That the amounts authorized herein may be used without regard to fiscal year;

RESOLVED, That City Council directs the City Administrator to distribute the funds to the Ann Arbor Housing Development Corporation, allowing coordination with other partner organizations to distribute the funds in the most effective manner possible and that subsequent to the distribution, the Ann Arbor Housing Development Corporation and the City will enter into a Grant Agreement detailing the reporting mechanism for how the funds will be distributed;

RESOLVED, That these funds will be used to provide a range of supportive services through the Rising Hope for Housing program, including but not limited to, mental health counseling, peer support groups, substance abuse treatment, life skills training, financial counseling, educational opportunities, transportation assistance, legal assistance, housing advocacy, health care coordination, entrepreneurship training, and case management services, from providers trained in trauma-informed care;

RESOLVED, That the Ann Arbor Housing Development Corporation may use up to five percent (5%) of the aforementioned funds for administrative costs related to providing trauma informed supportive services with priority for returning citizens and individuals impacted by the criminal legal system;

RESOLVED, That the City Council directs the City Administrator to investigate options for funding the Rising Hope for Housing program on a recurring basis in the next budget cycle; and

RESOLVED, That the City Council reaffirms its commitment to social justice, equity, and public safety by supporting programs that effectively assist returning citizens and contribute to a safer, more inclusive community.

Sponsors: Harrison, Radina, Cornell, Disch, Briggs, Ghazi Edwin, Watson, and Mayor Taylor

**Approved on a Voice Vote.**

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## **Amendment 5**

### **Amendment to Appropriate \$100,000 to the FY 2025 General Fund Budget for Equitable Communications to the Community**

Whereas, It is vital for Ann Arbor residents to receive information about their city government and to know how to contact their elected leaders for assistance;

Whereas, Not all residents have the ability to use digital communication;

Whereas, Research shows the digital divide adversely impacts low-income households, senior citizens, minority groups and people with disabilities;

Whereas, Printed materials are still a critical way to reach residents regardless of their Internet access or tech proficiency; and

Whereas, Council members have received requests from residents for some form of printed information to help them navigate city government;

RESOLVED, That City Council appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund fund balance to the FY 2025 General Fund Mayor and Council budget on a one-time basis for print and mail from City Council communications to the community; and

RESOLVED, That the City Council directs the City Administrator to investigate options for funding communications to the community on a recurring basis in the next budget cycle.

Sponsors: Eyer, Harrison, Ghazi Edwin and Disch

**Approved on a 7-4 Roll Call Vote.**

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## **Amendment 6**

### **Amendment to Prioritize Crosswalk Upgrades on Stone School Road**

**Defeated on 2-9 Roll Call Vote.**