

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2021-0259

<p>Sponsored by: Council President Jones</p> <p>Co-sponsored by: Councilmember Conwell</p>	<p>A Resolution allocating capital funds in the total amount of \$1,000,000.00 in support of the Veterans Service Commission of Cuyahoga County’s headquarters project; determining the services and programs that shall be provided and funded from the Veterans Services Fund in 2021; authorizing payments to various providers, in the total amount of \$700,024.35, for said services and programs for the period ending 12/31/2022; authorizing the County Executive to negotiate and execute any necessary agreements, contracts or other documents for same; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.</p>
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WHEREAS, Chapter 5901 of the Ohio Revised Code established a veterans service commission in each Ohio county, among whose duties include providing for the “administration of assistance” to veterans and “establishing programs of outreach and coordination with other agencies to enhance available services to veterans within the county;” and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Service Commission of Cuyahoga County is required to annually determine the amount it needs to provide assistance to veterans and must prepare and submit a budget to the Cuyahoga County Council, such budget to be within a statutorily prescribed formula; and

WHEREAS, the Council may review the proposed budget, but is required to appropriate the requested amount so long as the proposed budget is within the statutorily prescribed formula; and

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. O2012-0013, Cuyahoga County Council established the Veterans Services Fund, whereby the amounts appropriated and unspent by the Veterans Service Commission of Cuyahoga County are to be placed in a Veterans Services Fund and used to benefit veterans of the county; and

WHEREAS, \$1,700,024.35, originally budgeted for the operation of the Veterans Service Commission of Cuyahoga County, remains unspent; and

WHEREAS, the Council has determined to reserve \$1,000,000.00 of the budgeted but unspent funding in support of the Veterans Service Commission of Cuyahoga County; and

WHEREAS, \$700,024.35 remains available in the Veterans Services Fund for award; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 711 of the Cuyahoga County Code, Cuyahoga County Council shall determine the services and programs that shall be provided or funded from the Veterans Services Fund, consistent with the amount of funds available and with the purpose of the Fund; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 711 of the Cuyahoga County Code, Council directed that 20% of the available funds each year shall be used for a workforce development program to assist veterans with the costs of post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS, Council now desires to determine the services and programs that shall be provided or funded from the remaining available funds, and the amounts to be designated for the services and programs; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide for the beneficial and immediate impact of these funds, Council has determined that it would be advantageous to the County to distribute the funds to public bodies with veteran-related programs or services that benefit or exist to serve veterans or to non-profit agencies with existing or prior contracts with the County or other governmental agencies and programs or services dedicated to veterans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. The Cuyahoga County Council hereby authorizes the Fiscal Officer to reserve funds in the Veterans Services Fund for use by Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works for the acquisition of office space in support of the Veterans Service Commission, in the total amount of \$1,000,000.00.

SECTION 2. The Cuyahoga County Council hereby authorizes the Fiscal Officer to make one-time expenditures of available Veterans Services Funds, in the total amount of \$700,024.35, for the following services and programs through the 2022 calendar year:

- 1) Cuyahoga Community College, Veterans Services and Program Office, for scholarships for veterans residing in Cuyahoga County in the amount of **\$50,000.00.**
- 2) Cleveland State University, Veterans Benefit Office, for scholarships for veterans residing in Cuyahoga County in the amount of **\$50,000.00.**

- 3) Towards Employment Career Pathway Services for job readiness training, job search and placement, coaching and support for professional development of low-income veterans in the amount of **\$50,000.00**.
- 4) Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services for the Supportive Services for Veterans Families Program and for move-in kits for veterans entering permanent supportive housing in Cuyahoga County in the amount of **\$45,000.00**.
- 5) Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, Veterans Treatment Docket in the amount of **\$70,024.35**.
- 6) Legal Aid Society of Cleveland for the Legal Services for U.S. Veterans Program in the amount of **\$150,000.00**.
- 7) United Way 2-1-1 for the Help2Veterans Program in the amount of **\$82,000.00**.
- 8) Joseph's Home for wraparound services and transition to permanent housing for medically fragile, homeless veterans in Cuyahoga County in the amount of **\$70,000.00**.
- 9) Rid-All Green Partnership for Urban Agriculture Veterans Programming in the amount of **\$33,000.00**.
- 10) Greater Cleveland Fisher House for operating support for free lodging services for families of Cuyahoga County veterans hospitalized and being treated at the Louis B. Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center, Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, MetroHealth System, and other area hospitals in the amount of **\$100,000.00**

SECTION 2. Each of the offices, agencies, departments, or other bodies, granted pursuant to this Resolution shall provide written reports to Council by June 30, 2022 and November 30, 2022, summarizing the uses, amounts, and impacts of the distributed funds. Council may request additional information, in the form of oral or written reports.

SECTION 3. The County Executive is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute any necessary agreements or contracts in connection with the authorized expenditures and all other documents consistent with this Resolution. To the extent that any exemptions are necessary under the County Code and contracting procedures, they shall be deemed approved by the adoption of this Resolution.

SECTION 4. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County and the reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon the earliest occurrence of

any of the following: (1) its approval by the County Executive through signature, (2) the expiration of the time during which it may be disapproved by the County Executive under Section 3.10(6) of the Cuyahoga County Charter, or (3) its passage by at least eight members of Council after disapproval pursuant to Section 3.10(7) of the Cuyahoga County Charter. Otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

SECTION 5. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by Ms. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Miller, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas: Sweeney, Tuma, Gallagher, Conwell, Turner, Stephens, Simon, Baker, Miller and Jones

Nays: None

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County Council President	Date

_____	_____
County Executive	Date

_____	_____
Clerk of Council	Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: November 23, 2021

Committee(s) Assigned: Economic Development & Planning and Community Development

Additional Sponsorship Requested on the Floor: December 7, 2021

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