

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2022-0150

<p>Sponsored by: County Executive Budish/Department of Development on behalf of Department of Sustainability</p> <p>Co-sponsored by: Councilmember Turner, Simon and Miller</p>	<p>A Resolution authorizing a grant award to Cleveland Water Alliance in the amount not-to-exceed \$1,450,000.00 to establish the Water Economy Growth Initiative Program, commencing upon contract signature of all parties for a period of two (2) years; authorizing the County Executive to execute Contract No. 2417 and all other documents consistent with said award and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.</p>
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WHEREAS, the County Executive/Department of Development on behalf of Department of Sustainability recommends a grant award to Cleveland Water Alliance in the amount not-to-exceed \$1,450,000.00 to establish the Water Economy Growth Initiative Program, commencing upon contract signature of all parties for a period of two (2) years;

WHEREAS, the primary goals of this project are to grow Cuyahoga County's water economy by focusing on three areas consisting of (a) Water Intensive Industrial Attraction which is consistent with ecologically sound principles and standards, (b) Water Solutions' Company Attraction and (c) Testbeds and Innovation; and

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County seeks to emphasize attraction efforts to those businesses who will protect and enhance the ecological quality of Lake Erie as they operate here in addition to providing economic benefit to the region; and

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County realizes that more and more businesses are cognizant of and aware of their environmental responsibilities and that they frequently report their Environmental, Sustainability and Governance (ESG) goals and practices to shareholders, investors, credit reporting agencies and climate reporting groups such as Climate Disclosure Project aka CDP; and

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County has previously passed legislation to minimize and reduce the amount of plastic pollution into Lake Erie, one of our great natural resources by banning the use at certain retail establishments of single-use plastic bags; and

WHEREAS, the County wants to assist grocers and retailers in low-mod income communities with resources to help customers transition away from single-use plastic bags by establishing a \$200,000 grant program within the Department of Consumer Affairs; and

WHEREAS, this project is funded by 100% General Fund- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Revenue Replacement/Provision of Government Services; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue and to provide for the usual, daily operation of a County entity.

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

SECTION 1. That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby authorizes a grant award to Cleveland Water Alliance in the amount not-to-exceed \$1,450,000.00 to establish the Water Economy Growth Initiative Program, commencing upon contract signature of all parties for a period of two (2) years.

SECTION 2. That the \$270,000 in grant dollars associated with Water Intensive users shall concentrate on businesses and organizations which report to shareholders, investors or groups such as Climate Disclosure Project aka CDP their Environment, Sustainability and Governance goals and practices; and that these specific dollars shall be allocated so that half will be available upon execution of the Grant and half in year two only if the Cleveland Water Alliance appears before the Energy, Environment and Sustainability Committee and report on their efforts in this regard up to that time and only at the sole discretion of the County.

SECTION 3. That the County Executive is authorized to execute Contact No. 2417 all documents consistent with said award and this Resolution.

SECTION 4. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County; the preservation of public peace, health or safety in the County; and any additional 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.

