

Be it resolved that the Charter of the City of Cincinnati is hereby amended to add an Article XVII as follows:

Section 1. The people of Cincinnati—in order to avoid the need to pay back to the federal government millions of dollars already spent on the Cincinnati Streetcar System currently under construction; the need to return to the federal government tens of millions of dollars already allocated to the project; the need to spend millions in local taxpayer dollars to cancel the project at this point; the wastefulness of spending such taxpayer dollars without having anything to show for it; the harm that cancelling the project could do to the city's reputation; and the prospect of further division in the community over this issue—hereby instruct the city administration to proceed with construction and implementation of the Cincinnati Streetcar System and to complete it without further delay, using the plans approved and the funds allocated as of November 30, 2013.

Section 2. Upon passage of this Article, the city, in consultation with the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA), shall establish a public and private sector partnership to generate the money needed to cover the expenses of operating the Cincinnati Streetcar System once it is completed. The money needed to cover the streetcar system's operating expenses shall come from a combination of private funds to be raised by the public and private sector partnership thus established; public funds accessible for this purpose; fares to be paid by users of the streetcar; and fees, assessments, and other charges to be collected by a special authority or district that the city shall create and empower for this purpose in accordance with applicable laws, the geographic boundaries of which shall not extend beyond 1,500 feet from any part of the streetcar line. No money for the streetcar system's operating expenses shall come from SORTA funds allocated for bus operations.

Section 3. Council shall enact ordinances necessary to implement and effectuate this Article; but council, the city manager, and the mayor shall have no power, collectively or individually, to take any action that would in any way override, nullify, impede, or frustrate the decision of the people expressed in this Article.

Section 4. In the event that any provision of this Article is found to be in conflict with any state or federal law, only such provision found to be in conflict with such state or federal shall be stricken, and the remainder of this Article shall remain in full force and effect.