

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

February 20, 2026

Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Cincinnati City Planning Commission for Friday, February 20, 2026, was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 801 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 and virtually on Zoom.

Pursuant to Chapter 121 of the Cincinnati Municipal Code enacted by Ordinance 298-2021, the Cincinnati City Planning Commission held its meeting on February 20, 2026, in-person and via videoconference (on Zoom). The manner of remote participation complied with all requirements of the Open Meetings Act. The meeting could be watched in real time on CitiCable or by livestreaming the meeting at www.cincinnati-oh.gov/media. Members of the public were invited to participate in-person by registering online to receive the Zoom link. Public comments and questions to be shared with the City Planning Commission could be submitted to the Department of City Planning and Engagement in advance of the meeting.

Present: Mr. Jacob Samad, Chair
Ms. Anna Albi, City Councilmember and Commissioner
Ms. Cathy Bailey, Assistant City Manager and Commissioner
Mr. Darrick Dansby, Commissioner
Ms. Anne Sesler, Commissioner (Zoom)

Excused: Ms. Daniella Beltran, Vice Chair
Mr. John Eby, Commissioner

Staff Present: Ms. Katherine Keough-Jurs, City Planning & Engagement, Director (Zoom)
Ms. Emily Ahouse, City Planning & Engagement, Deputy Director
Ms. Stacey Hoffman, City Planning & Engagement, City Planning Division Manager
Ms. Siobhan Bracken, City Planning & Engagement, Co-op
Ms. Carly Evans, City Planning & Engagement, Administrative Specialist
Mr. Andrew Halt, City Planning & Engagement, City Planner
Mx. Sophia Ferries-Rowe, City Planning & Engagement, City Planner
Mr. Kevin Tidd, Law, Legal Counsel

Mr. Samad called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and asked that everyone join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Samad asked for a vote to move Item 2 to the Discussion Agenda as there were members of the public who wished to speak on the item.

Ms. Sesler joined the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Commission Action:

Voted to move Item 2 to the Discussion Agenda.

Motion: Mr. Dansby
Second: Ms. Albi
Ayes: Ms. Albi, Ms. Bailey, Mr. Dansby, Mr. Samad
Abstain: Ms. Sesler
Nays: None

Consent Agenda – Legislative**ITEM 1**

A report and recommendation on the proposed lease of Egan Alley in the Central Business District. The staff of the Department of City Planning and Engagement recommended that the City Planning Commission take the following action:

- 1) **APPROVE** the proposed lease of Egan Alley in the Central Business District.

Commission Action:

Adopted the staff's recommendation for Item 1 on the Legislative Consent Agenda.

Motion: Mr. Samad
Second: Ms. Albi
Ayes: Ms. Albi, Ms. Bailey, Mr. Dansby, Mr. Samad, Ms. Sesler
Nays: None

Discussion Agenda – Legislative**ITEM 2**

Mx. Sophia Ferries-Rowe presented a report and recommendation on a proposed long-term lease of City-owned property at 1720 Race Street in Over-the-Rhine. The staff of the Department of City Planning and Engagement recommended that the City Planning Commission take the following action:

- 1) **APPROVE** the proposed long-term lease of City-owned property at 1720 Race Street in Over-the-Rhine.

Speakers and Discussion:

Ms. Kelly Lanser, from the Corporation for Findlay Market (CFFM) and a member of the applicant team, thanked the commission for taking the time to consider the long-term lease at 1720 Race Street. Ms. Lanser said that a zone change request at 1813 Race Street was approved last summer but due to community feedback, they opted to renovate the vacant building at 1720 Race Street as a compromise. The larger space, combined with the location being right across the street, will increase efficiency for both CFFM staff and customers. She shared that there was support from the community and the market's small businesses.

Mr. Maurice Wagoner, President of the OTR Community Council (OTRCC), stated that the community fought in 2018 to keep the property at 1720 Race Street as a community asset and

resource. He referenced a petition that they brought with them that had multiple signatures opposing the lease. Further, Mr. Wagoner stated that the community council did not get notification until the previous month that this lease was proposed and had not had the opportunity to discuss this with the OTRCC.

Minister Adrian, from the OTRCC Quality of Life Committee, disputed that CFFM has community support. He does not feel promises to the community have been met. He stated that the building was needed for the OTRCC.

Ms. Georgine Getty, Executive Director of Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen (at 1730 Race Street), spoke in support of the lease and praised the CFFM maintenance staff for being a good neighbor.

Mr. Ernie Palmer, resident and owner of Arcx Studio, spoke in support of the lease, suggesting that it would be a positive contribution to the neighborhood.

Ms. Vennasa Sophia, Chair of the OTRCC Quality of Life Committee, stated that they were not notified of the lease until January of 2026 and asked that the City Planning Commission delay the decision until the OTRCC can meet to review the options. She reiterated that the building was needed for the OTRCC.

Ms. Tanica Stallworth, OTR community member, presented a petition with 100 signatures that were collected in 48 hours asking the City Planning Commission to postpone the decision on the lease to give the community an opportunity to be involved in the process.

Mr. Dansby asked Mx. Ferries-Rowe about the community engagement process. Mx. Ferries-Rowe stated that a notice was sent two weeks prior to the January 21, 2026 Community Engagement Meeting that was sent to property owners within 400-feet of the subject property. Additionally, notice of the City Planning Commission meeting was sent to adjacent property owners, as well as everyone who had registered for the Community Engagement Meeting, and the OTRCC. Nine community members attended the Community Engagement Meeting. At that meeting, the OTRCC voiced the same concern regarding the short notice of the lease and wanting some space for the community.

Ms. Albi acknowledged that it would take some time for the new OTR Community Center to constructed and opened, and asked for patience during the construction period and suggested that there was an opportunity for the OTRCC to use that new space for meetings and other events.

Commission Action:

Adopted the staff's recommendation for Item 2 on the Legislative Discussion Agenda.

Motion:	Ms. Albi
Second:	Mr. Dansby

Ayes: Ms. Albi, Ms. Bailey, Mr. Dansby, Mr. Samad, Ms. Sesler
Nays: None

Other Business

Ms. Stacey Hoffman and Ms. Emily Ahouse presented the 2025 Department of City Planning and Engagement Annual Update and the 2026 Department of City Planning and Engagement Work Program.

Director's Report

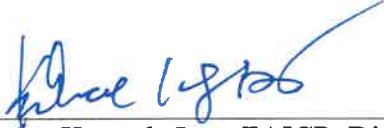
Ms. Katherine Keough-Jurs thanked the City Planning Commission for their time and stated that the next meeting was scheduled for March 6, 2026. Ms. Keough-Jurs reminded the Commission about the Allor Planning and Zoning Workshop would take place on Friday, March 13, 2026, at the Graduate Hotel.

The meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

The minutes for the February 20, 2026, Regular Meeting are approved as distributed.

February 20, 2026



Katherine Keough-Jurs, FAICP, Director
Department of City Planning and Engagement

Date: 4/17/2026



Jacob Samad, Chair
City Planning Commission

Date: 4/17/2026