**Proposed Rental Registry for the City of Cincinnati**

**Why does Cincinnati need a rental registry?**

The City seeks to create a more accessible and less burdensome Residential Rental Registry to ensure property owners are timely notified of urgent issues, such as water line breaks and fires, and to better protect the tenants, neighboring residents, and the properties themselves.

The various city of Cincinnati Departments responsible for enforcing health and safety codes and responding to emergencies related to housing are often unable to reach necessary owners and/or managers of rental properties located in Cincinnati because there is no law in place that requires owners to provide emergency contact information. Further, the state/county rental registration process is burdensome to property owners, which results in under- and/or inaccurate reporting.

**What does the registry require?**

The City’s proposed rental registry is simple and places minimal obligations and costs on property owners. Rental property owners are only required to register the property once and update it only if there are changes to the information provided. The registry requires property owners to provide the following information:

* Owner contact information;
* Address and PPN for the registered property; and
* Contact information for the owner’s designated emergency contact person who can respond to emergency and/or maintenance issues 24-hours/day

**What types of properties would have to be registered?**

Only traditional rental properties have to be registered. The following properties are exempt: hotels, motels, state-owned dormitories, owner-occupied two-family units, properties ordered vacated, commercial spaces associated with a mixed-use residential property, and short-term rental properties.

**Will there be a fee?**

There will be a nominal annual fee associated with each registration, and the fees collected will be used to cover the administrative costs associated with maintaining the registry.

**How do I register?**

Property owners will be able to register online or by filing paperwork that can be obtained online or in-person from the appropriate City department.