

Charlie Winburn
Cincinnati City Councilman

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release: August 28, 2012
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Winburn: City to Sue Duke Over Streetcar Means Higher Rates to City Rate Payers City Considering Duke Lawsuit – Read Today’s Cincinnati Enquirer

Cincinnati, OH – Cincinnati City Councilmember Charlie Winburn to ask Mayor and Council, **after summer recess, to pull plug on Streetcar.**

Cincinnati City Councilmember Charlie Winburn has confirmed with **credible sources** that **Duke Energy of Ohio** has recently proposed to the Mayor and City Manager two financial alternatives for movement of utilities to pave the way for the Downtown Streetcar.

The two financial Streetcar proposals are as follows:

Under Plan 1: The City of Cincinnati will be required to pay Duke Energy of Ohio approximately \$20-28 million for the movement of utilities.

Under Plan 2: If Duke Energy of Ohio is **legally forced or required by the courts** to pay the approximate \$20-28 million utility movement then Duke Energy of Ohio will pass this cost on to the Cincinnati rate payers for a minimum of three years.

Councilman Charlie Winburn is recommending that Mayor and Council resolve this Streetcar **debacle** by taking the following **four action steps immediately:**

1. Mayor and Council to oppose Plan 1 of spending City tax payer dollars of \$20-28 million to Duke Energy of Ohio to move utilities.
2. Mayor and Council to adamantly oppose requesting Duke Energy of Ohio to pass on a \$20-28 million Streetcar Bill to City rate payers through higher gas and electric bills each month.
3. **Mayor and Council to cease and desist from wasting anymore City tax payer dollars on this biggest government waste project in the history of Cincinnati.**
4. Mayor and City Council to adopt Winburn’s Downtown Trolley on Wheels which would cost approximately \$10 million or 95% less than the Streetcar. Winburn’s Downtown Trolley will run **eight miles and will be free** to all citizens, stopping at over **100 designations** each day, such as: Xavier, the Zoo, University Hospital, University of Cincinnati (UC), Mt. Auburn, Mt. Adams, Over-the-Rhine, Horseshoe Casino Cincinnati, Fountain Square, Government Square, the Banks, Northern Kentucky, School of Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA), Music Hall, the Museum Center and City Hall.

Winburn concluded that it’s time for Mayor and City Council to pull the plug on the Downtown Streetcar. “It’s a Streetcar going nowhere”, concluded Winburn.

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