

The Winburn Report

City of Cincinnati—The Office of Councilman Charlie Winburn

Winburn Working to Keep Businesses in Cincinnati

Enquirer: “Where is jobs retention plan?”

By Alexander Coolidge • acoolidge@enquirer.com • August 18, 2010

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Cincinnati councilman Charlie Winburn is asking City Manager Milton Dohoney for a comprehensive plan on retaining jobs in the city, as Fifth Third Processing Solutions flirts with nearby municipalities.

Fifth Third Processing Solutions, which was spun off from the regional bank into a separate company in 2009, said it's looking for larger office space to house most of its 800 local workers under one roof – including a site in Symmes Township and an unspecified area in Northern Kentucky. The processor also plans to add up to 300 jobs.

Dohoney was unavailable for comment. His office said negotiations with the company, which processes debit and credit card transactions for merchants and small banks are ongoing, but has provided sparse details on the progress.

“Job retention and creation is obviously a top priority. The city manager has been

in direct contact with Fifth Third Processing and they are still talking,” said city spokeswoman Meg Olberding.

“Right now, it is premature to lay out particulars” about the discussions.

“We shouldn't be losing these jobs,” said Winburn, chairman of council's Job Creation Committee. “We don't evidently have a plan to handle this and other people are trying to leave the city. We shouldn't be handling this on a knee-jerk basis.”

In a memo sent to Dohoney Wednesday, Winburn asks the city manager if there is a specific plan for major employers mulling departure as their leases expire. Winburn said he is skeptical there is one.

Olberding said the city has economic development and job creation strategies, such as GO Cincinnati, but wasn't sure what written plans the city has pertaining to job retention. She noted Dohoney and Mayor Mark Mal-

lory both keep tabs on the business community through regular contact with local chief executives. She said Dohoney's office was working on a reply to Winburn's memo.

The possibility of losing Fifth Third Processing to another city or state became public last month, when the state of Ohio offered the company \$8.2 million worth of tax credits to retain and create jobs.

[Councilman] Bortz said the city should try to match any incentive package offered by other cities, but it's unclear what the company wants. While the company has expressed concerns, it has not specifically asked for anything from the city, Bortz said.

Fifth Third Processing handles more than 33.3 billion ATM and point-of-sale transactions and more than \$315 billion in debit and credit card sales volume a year for retailers and financial companies.

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Trolley Folly

“With all the uncertainty in today's economy, it doesn't seem to be fiscally responsible to strap our city with such a significant commitment that could very easily end up in the same junk yard as the last streetcar system Cincinnati attempted.”

THE LAST WORD BY
CHARLIE WINBURN
CINCINNATI
GENTLEMEN
APRIL/MAY 2009



Cincinnati's Library Ranked Among the Top in Nation

Only Library in Top 10 of All 3 Lists!



THE
PUBLIC
LIBRARY
of Cincinnati
and
Hamilton County



► Top 10 Best Public Libraries

Earlier this year the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County ranked 7th among libraries serving populations of 500,000 or more in [national] ratings, our highest rating ever.

► Top 10 Largest Library Collections

The American Library Association also ranked Cincinnati's library in the top 10 for collection size—9.2 million items—1 of only 3 public libraries to make the top 10, alongside the Library of Congress and Harvard University.

► Top 10 Busiest Public Libraries

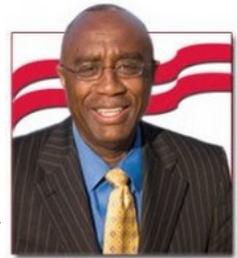
With more than 16 million items borrowed, Cincinnati ranked 10th in the nation for the number of items checked out in 2009. “We are the only public library in the country to be in the top 10 on all three lists,” noted Kim Fender, Executive Director.

City of Cincinnati Public Service Directory

- ▶ High Grass and Weeds564-1750
- ▶ Junk Cars on Street591-6000
- ▶ Junk Cars on Property564-1780
- ▶ Potholes591-6000
- ▶ Litter on Property564-1750
- ▶ Public Housing/Section 8721-2642
- ▶ Vacant Buildings352-3275
- ▶ Curfew Violations765-1212
- ▶ 24/7 Customer Service591-6000

If your issue is not resolved in a timely manner
or if you need further assistance, call me!

"I'm Charlie Winburn and I work for you. Please feel free to contact me at my office any time. It is a honor to be your City Councilman and I look forward to serving you for the next two years."



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Winburn to Address Small Business Enterprise Open House Office of Contract Compliance Reaching Out to City-Certified SBEs

Thursday, September 9, 2010 from 9:30am to 2:00pm
TechSolve, 6705 Steger Dr, Cincinnati, OH 45237

SBEs will be able to meet individually with City representatives in a friendly networking format with ample opportunity for questions and answers. The forum is being directed by Assistant City Manager David Holmes and Contract Compliance Officer Rochelle Thompson, who will provide an update on the SBE Program and offer suggestions on how you can become involved. Other experts will provide special presentations and highlights of the City's program to help small businesses.

For more information or to RSVP to the Open House, contact: Kate Franchini at (513) 352-3143, kate.franchini@cincinnati-oh.gov or Lois D'Avignon (513) 352-3144, lois.davignon@cincinnati-oh.gov

Don't Miss Events...Put These on Your Calendar!



UniverSoul Circus—September 2-6 at Jordan Crossing, Reading Road at Seymour Avenue
Information and Tickets available at www.universoulcircus.com



Freestore Foodbank Rubber Duck Regatta 2010—Sunday, September 5 @ 3:00pm
Buy a duck...feed the hungry for a chance to win a 2010 Honda Fit and \$1,000,000!
Ducks are available at Kroger and online at <http://fsfbmedia.org/rubberduckregatta/>



CarMax Riverfest—Sunday, September 5, noon till 11:00pm
All-day affair with music, food and family fun and entertainment (Cincinnati's Sawyer Point is a family-friendly no-alcohol zone that concludes with the largest fireworks display in the Midwest.

Cincinnati Bell/WEBN Fireworks—Sunday, September 5, 9:00pm
The end of summer blowout on the river and in the air! Watch the fireworks with 250,000 friends.

Job Creation Committee—Monday, September 13, 1:00pm
Cincinnati City Council returns from recess to all regular schedules beginning the week after Labor Day. City Council meetings occur every Wednesday with public comments at 1:30pm and session at 2:00pm.