

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-18

AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF AN ALTERNATIVE
METHOD OF APPORTIONING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
FUND

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 5747.53 provides that in lieu of apportioning the undivided local government fund by the method prescribed by Revised Code Sections 5747.51 and 5747.52, that an alternative method of apportioning said fund may be approved by the Budget Commission upon approval of such alternative method by the Board of County Commissioners, the legislative authority of the city, located wholly or partially in the county, with the greatest population; and a majority of the boards of township trustees and legislative authorities of municipal corporations, located wholly or partially within the county, excluding the legislative authority of the city with the greatest population; and

WHEREAS, up until 1989, the Hamilton County Budget Commission had operated under the statutory formula provided by ORC Sections 5747.51 and 5747.52; and

WHEREAS, the statutory method of apportioning the Fund had resulted in repeated and continued litigation between and among the parties entitled to participate in the distribution of the Fund; and

WHEREAS, the statutory method of apportioning the Fund had resulted in continued uncertainties about the financial distribution of the Fund; and

WHEREAS, the alternative method of apportioning the Fund first adopted in 1988 and renewed in 1995, 2004 and again in 2012 has brought stability to the process by eliminating the uncertainties of litigation and providing for a more efficient and effective method of financial planning; and

WHEREAS, the alternative method of apportioning the Local Government Fund as described and outlined in the attached Exhibit A represents a rational method of apportioning the Local Government Fund which is in the best interests of the City of Blue Ash.

Be it resolved by the Council of the City of Blue Ash, Ohio.

SECTION I.

The attached agreement (Exhibit A) is hereby adopted for the distribution or allocation of the undivided local government fund and shall be in effect for said fund available and intended to be distributed for calendar years 2021 through 2028 inclusive.

SECTION II.

The Clerk of Council is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Office of the Hamilton County Budget Commission.

PASSED this 23rd day of April, 2020.

Marc Sirkin, Mayor

Jamie Eifert, Clerk of Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Bryan Pacheco, Solicitor

THIS IS A CERTIFIED TRUE AND
CORRECT COPY:

Jamie Eifert, Clerk of Council

EXHIBIT "A"
AGREED METHOD FOR APPORTIONING THE
UNDIVIDED LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND

Pursuant to the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code Section 5747.53 providing for an alternative method of apportioning the undivided local government fund, upon receipt of certified resolutions of the Board of County Commissioners, the legislative authority of the city, located wholly or partially in the county, with the greatest population; and a majority of the boards of township trustees and legislative authorities of municipal corporations, located wholly or partially within the county, excluding the legislative authority of the city with the greatest population, the Hamilton County Budget Commission may adopt the following method of apportioning the undivided local government fund:

- A. The Hamilton County Park District shall receive a total of \$300,000 or 1% of the entire amount of the fund to be allocated, whichever amount is less;
- B. Of the remaining amount to be allocated after the allocation in paragraph (A) above, Hamilton County will receive 40.75% of said remaining amount;
- C. Of the remaining amount to be allocated after the allocation in paragraph (A) above, the City of Cincinnati will receive 40.75% of said remaining amount;
- D. The remaining amount to be allocated after the allocation in paragraph (A) above and after the allocations made in paragraphs (B) and (C) above shall be made to the remaining villages, townships, and cities (exclusive of the City of Cincinnati) as follows.
 1. 100,000 shall be set aside as an emergency fund to be used at the discretion of the Budget Commission for fiscal emergencies that may occur in these political subdivisions. Any remaining funds at the end of the funding year shall be added to the next year's distribution.
 2. After the emergency fund is set aside, a base amount for each political subdivision shall be established. The base amount for each political subdivision shall be 75% of the average of the undivided local government fund allocations made to the subdivision in 2017, 2018, and 2019.
 3. After the total base amounts have been subtracted from the total amount available, the remainder shall be allocated as follows:
 - a. 1/3 on the basis of the percentage of each political subdivision's population to the total population of each political subdivision (population figures used will be the most current available from U.S. Census Bureau at the time of allocation; in the case of a township, only the population of the unincorporated area of that township will be considered);
 - b. 1/3 on the basis of the percentage of each political subdivision's assessed real estate tax valuation to the total assessed real estate tax valuations of each political subdivision; excepting therefrom in each case the public utility personal property values. Assessed real estate tax valuation figures used will be the most current available at the time of allocation;

- c. 1/3 on the basis of the percentage of each political subdivisions lane miles of dedicated streets fully maintained by the political subdivision to the total lane miles (lane miles will be determined by the political subdivisions consulting engineer and certified to the Hamilton County Budget Commission at the time of allocation).
4. Notwithstanding items 2, 3 a.b. and c. above, if after allocations have been determined, any political subdivision that has been allocated less than 90% of its 2019 or 2020 allocation, whichever is greater, (hereinafter “floor”), or its statutory minimum, that subdivision’s allocation will be increased to bring it up to that amount which is the “floor” and all other political subdivisions allocations will be decreased proportionately.

It is hereby agreed that the above method of apportionment of the undivided local government fund shall be in effect for said fund available and, intended to be distributed in 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028.

This agreed method of apportionment shall remain in effect for the above referenced years and shall not be revoked by any party or combination of parties before such time as it expires by its terms.

This alternative formula shall apply for the duration of this agreement as an alternative to the distribution of the county undivided local government fund under Sections 5747.51 and 5747.52 O.R.C.

Notwithstanding any provision of this agreement to the contrary, in the event that the statutory percentage share allocable to Hamilton County under provisions of 5747.53(C) should be reduced to thirty percent (this will occur in the event the percentage of population that resides within municipal corporations in the county is 81% or more, as reported in the reports on population in Ohio by the Department of Development as of the twentieth day of July of the year in which the tax budget is filed with the Budget Commission – the County’s share of the distribution in that year shall not exceed 30% of the total estimate of the undivided local government for that year) then this agreement shall be null and void for that year and all ensuing years to which it otherwise would have applied, and the distribution of the local government fund by the Budget Commission shall be governed by the provisions of 5747.51 and 5747.52 O.R.C.