

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Ordinance No. O2020-0018

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Miller, Brown and Conwell	An Ordinance amending Section 208.01 of the Cuyahoga County Code to provide for the appointment of the Cuyahoga County Citizens’ Advisory Council on Equity, and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.
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WHEREAS, in 2012, Cuyahoga County Council adopted Ordinance No. O2012-0014 (the “Equity Ordinance”), which established the County Equity Commission and the Citizens’ Advisory Council on Equity to oversee and report on equity efforts undertaken by the County and in the delivery of County services, as well as the collection of relevant data and the issuance of an annual equity report; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, Cuyahoga County Council enacted Ordinance No. O2018-0009 (the “Anti-Discrimination Ordinance”), which established the Cuyahoga County Human Rights Commission to adjudicate complaints of unlawful discrimination throughout Cuyahoga County and to “promote principles of diversity, inclusion, and harmony” throughout the County through education and community events; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, Cuyahoga County Council enacted Ordinance No. O2019-0002 which desired to harmonize and align the efforts of the various public bodies established by the Equity Ordinance and the Anti-Discrimination Ordinance by providing that the Citizens’ Advisory Council on Equity be appointed once every five years to periodically report and recommend policies and programs to both the County Equity Commission and the Human Rights Commission; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Cuyahoga County Council enacted Ordinance No. O2020-0014 which added two additional appointments to the Citizens Advisory Council on Equity appointed by the County Council President; and

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County Council desires to amend Section 208.01 of the Cuyahoga County Code to provide for the appointment of members of the Citizens’ Advisory Council on Equity to staggered three-year terms to consistently report and recommend policies and programs to the County Executive, County Council, Equity Commission and/or Human Rights Commission; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue and to provide for the usual, daily operation of a County entity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. Section 208.01 of the Cuyahoga County Code is hereby amended to read as follows (deletions are stricken, additions are bolded and underlined):

- A. **Composition:** The Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity shall be first appointed in July of 2020 ~~October of 2019 and once every five years thereafter~~ to obtain community input on the full range of equity issues in Cuyahoga County, and on an ad hoc basis as may be necessary to support the work of the **County Executive, County Council**, Equity Commission and/or Human Rights Commission, and shall be composed of ~~nine (9)~~ **to fifteen (15)** County residents, appointed by the Executive, and confirmed by Council, of which not more than three (3) may be employees of Cuyahoga County, and two (2) County residents, appointed by the County Council President, of which either or both may be employees of Cuyahoga County. Members shall each serve a **staggered** term of ~~three one-year terms after the initial July 2020 appointments~~ **or until such time as an Advisory Council is dissolved, whichever occurs first. Five members from the County Executive's initial July 2020 appointees shall serve for a one year term, five members shall serve for a two year term, and five members shall serve for a three year term. The initial two members appointed by the County Council President shall serve a three year term. All appointees thereafter shall serve for three year terms. If a vacancy occurs, the original appointing authority shall appoint a replacement in the same manner as the a regular appointment for the unexpired term.** The County Executive and the Council shall use good faith efforts to reflect the diversity of the people of the County in appointing the members of the Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity. Members will serve without compensation, except for actual expenses.
- B. **Leadership and Staffing:** The Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity shall choose its own leaders and develop its own rules of procedure, consistent with this Section, other County ordinances, and the County Charter. The Executive shall provide staff support as needed.
- C. **Duties:** The duties of the Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity shall include:
1. Acting as a resource for information and advice for the Equity Commission and the Human Rights Commission
 2. Encouraging community outreach and public participation in the development of equity goals, strategies and programs
 3. Providing recommendations and input to the Executive and Council regarding the development of equity goals, strategies and programs

4. Meeting publicly on a quarterly basis to provide a forum for the public to offer ideas and recommendations regarding equity
5. Upon completing its work and at such other times as may be appropriate, the Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity shall provide a report of findings and recommendations for policies and programs from the Advisory Council and collected from the public regarding equity to the Executive and the Council. This report shall also be made available to the public online.



SECTION 2. It is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County and the reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Ordinance receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon the earliest occurrence of any of the following: (1) its approval by the County Executive through signature, (2) the expiration of the time during which it may be disapproved by the County Executive under Section 3.10(6) of the Cuyahoga County Charter, or (3) its passage by at least eight members of Council after disapproval pursuant to Section 3.10(7) of the Cuyahoga County Charter. Otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

SECTION 3. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by Ms. Brown, seconded by Mr. Miller, the foregoing Ordinance was duly enacted.

Yeas: Jones, Brown, Simon, Baker, Miller, Tuma, Gallagher, Schron, Conwell and Brady

Nays: None

	10/27/2020
_____ County Council President	_____ Date
	10/27/2020
_____ County Executive	_____ Date

Jerry M. Schlotz

10/27/2020

Clerk of Council

Date

[Clerk's Note: Technical corrections to Legislation made by Clerk prior to first reading: October 26, 2020]

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October 27, 2020

[Clerk's Note: Electronic signatures affixed in accordance with Cuyahoga County Code Chapter 110]