

## **ORDINANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chicago ("City") is a home rule unit of government as defined in Article VII, Section 6(a) of the Illinois Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, as a home rule unit of government, the City may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs including, but not limited to, the power to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, the City proposes to initiate a transportation assistance program to distribute 100,000 Prepaid Transit Cards and 50,000 Prepaid Gas Cards (each as hereafter defined) to be used, respectively, for using public transit within the City and for purchasing gas within the City ("Program"); and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Program is to alleviate, in an equitable manner, the burden on City residents of recent increases in costs of goods and services, including without limitation recent steep increases in gas prices; and

**WHEREAS**, the City intends to allocate \$12,500,000 for the Program to purchase Prepaid Cards (as hereafter defined); and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to amend the 2022 Annual Appropriation Ordinance to effectuate the Program; now, therefore,

### **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:**

**SECTION 1.** The foregoing recitals are adopted and incorporated into and made a part of this ordinance.

**SECTION 2.** For purposes of this ordinance, the following definitions shall apply:

"Applicant" means an individual who has applied for the benefits created under SUBSECTION (5)(a)(1), SUBSECTION (5)(a)(2) or SECTION 6 of this ordinance.

"Area Median Income" means the median household income for the Chicago Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area as calculated and adjusted for household size on an annual basis by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"CTA" means the Chicago Transit Authority.

"Director" means the City's Budget Director.

"High Mobility Hardship Community Area" means a geographic area within the City designated by the City, in partnership with a governmental or a non-governmental entity, as a high mobility hardship community area in accordance with a mobility hardship index developed in consideration of the following factors: travel times to work, income spent on transportation, and number of residents with a disability.

"Municipal Code" means the Municipal Code of Chicago.

"Prepaid Cards" means Prepaid Gas Cards and Prepaid Transit Cards.

"Prepaid Gas Card" means a debit card loaded with \$150, pursuant to this ordinance.

"Prepaid Transit Card" means: (i) a debit card loaded with \$50 and which can only be used to pay for public transit; or (ii) a \$50 value Ventra Transit Rider Card.

"Ventra Transit Rider Card" means an electronic fare payment card used to effect payments for transportation by CTA buses and trains and the Regional Transportation Authority's suburban buses and trains.

**SECTION 3.** The 2022 Annual Appropriation Ordinance is hereby amended by striking the words and figures indicated and by inserting the words and figures indicated on Exhibit A attached hereto.

**SECTION 4.** The Director is authorized to purchase up to 100,000 Prepaid Transit Cards for the purpose of distributing such Prepaid Transit Cards as provided in SECTION 5 of this ordinance. The Director is further authorized to make a direct interagency transfer of funds, or otherwise effect payment, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 from funds appropriated for the purpose of purchasing the Prepaid Transit Cards, as the Director deems appropriate.

**SECTION 5.** The Prepaid Transit Cards shall be distributed as follows:

- (a) The Director, directly or through an agreement with a governmental or a non-governmental entity, is authorized to distribute: (1) about 75,000 Prepaid Transit Cards to eligible Applicants who reside in one of the High Mobility Hardship Community Areas; and (2) about 25,000 Prepaid Transit Cards to eligible Applicants who reside in any part of the City. If the Director receives more applications than the number of Prepaid Transit Cards available for distribution, the Director shall use a lottery process to select beneficiaries among eligible Applicants. The lottery conducted for Citywide distribution shall have an equal number of Prepaid Transit Cards in each ward. The Director shall employ best efforts to distribute the approximate number of Prepaid Transit Cards as provided in subsection (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this Section. Provided, however, nothing provided in this Subsection shall be construed as prohibiting the Director from adjusting the distribution of Prepaid Transit Cards provided in this subsection in an equitable manner.
- (b) The distribution of Prepaid Transit Cards under this SECTION (5) shall be: (i) in the form of sending a debit card loaded with \$50 which can only be used to pay for public transit; or (ii) in the form of providing \$50 value Ventra Transit Rider Card, as the Director deems appropriate.

**SECTION 6.** The Director is authorized to distribute up to 50,000 Prepaid Gas Cards with \$150 value each for eligible selected Applicants. If the Director receives applications from more than 50,000 eligible Applicants to receive Prepaid Gas Cards under this SECTION 6, the Director shall use a lottery process to select beneficiaries among the eligible Applicants. The Director shall employ best efforts to distribute an equal number of Prepaid Gas Cards in each ward.

**SECTION 7.** In connection with the distribution of the first 10,000 Prepaid Gas Cards, the Director is authorized to enter into the Prepaid Card Program Agreement with North Lane Technologies, Inc., substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B, but with such revisions in text as the Director shall determine are necessary or desirable, the execution thereof, and any

amendment thereto, by the Director to evidence the City Council's approval of all such revisions. In connection with the distribution of the remaining 40,000 Prepaid Gas Cards and the distribution of Prepaid Transit Cards, the Director is further authorized to enter into agreements with governmental or nongovernmental entities (including without limitation one or more amendments to the Prepaid Card Program Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit B) which contain terms comparable to, or which contain terms more favorable to the City than, the Prepaid Card Program Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit B, as in the judgment of the Director shall be in the best interests of the City.

**SECTION 8.** The following requirements shall apply for the Program:

- (a) To be eligible for any of the benefits created under this ordinance, an Applicant must be at least 18 years old and must have (i) a residential address in the City, (ii) household income of at or below 100 percent of the Area Median Income, and (iii) for those applying for a Prepaid Gas Card, a valid and current wheel tax emblem.
- (b) No Applicant shall be eligible for more than one of the three benefits created under SUBSECTION (5)(a)(1), SUBSECTION (5)(a)(2) or SECTION 6 of this ordinance.
- (c) No more than one Applicant per household shall be eligible for any of the benefits created under this ordinance.

**SECTION 9.** In connection with the Program, the Chief Financial Officer, the City Comptroller, the Director, and the City Clerk are each authorized to execute and deliver such other documents and agreements and perform such other acts prior to or following the issuance of the Prepaid Cards as may be necessary or desirable in connection with the issuance of the Prepaid Cards and the administration and implementation of the Program.

**SECTION 10.** The Chief Financial Officer, the City Comptroller, the Director, and the City Clerk are authorized, jointly or separately, to adopt rules for the proper administration or implementation of this ordinance.

**SECTION 11.** To the extent that any ordinance, resolution, rule, order or provision of the Municipal Code, or part thereof, is in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance, the provisions of this ordinance shall control. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the other provisions of this ordinance.

**SECTION 12.** This ordinance shall be published by the City Clerk, by causing to be printed in special pamphlet form at least five copies hereof, which copies are to be made available in her office for public inspection and distribution to members of the public who may wish to avail themselves of a copy of this ordinance.

**SECTION 13.** This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication.

AMENDMENT TO 2022 BUDGET ORDINANCE - EXHIBIT A

0100 - Corporate Fund

PAGE CODE	DEPARTMENT AND ITEM	STRIKE		ADD	
		NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT
20	Estimated Revenue for 2022		\$ 4,836,022,000		\$ 4,848,522,000
20	Total appropriable for charges and expenditures		\$ 4,887,422,000		\$ 4,899,922,000
22	Other Revenue		\$ 124,522,000		\$ 137,022,000
22	Total Revenue - Corporate Fund		\$ 4,836,022,000		\$ 4,848,522,000

## AMENDMENT TO 2022 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE - EXHIBIT A

## Corporate Fund-0100

Code	Department and Item	STRIKE		ADD	
		Number	Amount	Number	Amount
	99-Finance General				
.9754	Transportation Relief Fund				12,500,000