

ORDINANCE NO.

FILE OF CITY COUNCIL

BILL NO. 21 - 2025

MARCH 5, 2025

AN ORDINANCE

Amending the 2025 Grants Fund to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) from the State Office of the Budget, Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP). These funds are a pass-through grant that will support the Scottish Rite Cathedral.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN:

SECTION ONE: That City Council authorizes an increase to the Grant Fund in the amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) from the State Office of the Budget as follows:

005-6213	Grant Fund	\$ 1,000,000.00
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SECTION TWO: That City Council authorizes a supplemental appropriation to the Grant Fund, 005-01-5201-0001-48 as follows:

Grant Fund	
005-01-5201-0001-48	\$ 1,000,000.00

SECTION THREE: That this Ordinance will take effect ten (10) days after final passage.

SECTION FOUR: That all Ordinances inconsistent with the above provisions are repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

Legislative Template

- What department or bureau is this bill originating from?

Department of Community and Economic Development. This Bill is the result of the successful application and award of the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant for the Scottish Rite Cathedral building and parking lot, located in downtown Allentown and operated by AASR Lehigh Consistory.

- Summary and facts of the bill.

The AASR Lehigh Consistory, the Subgrantee, submitted a formal application to the State Office of the Budget, for which the City will serve as the Grantee. The \$1,000,000 awarded in RACP funds will be used for restorative construction and redevelopment of infrastructure costs to repair the Scottish Rite Cathedral.

- Purpose – Please include the following in your explanation:
 - a. What are the specific goals or tasks the bill seeks to accomplish?

This bill distributes funds as specified within the RACP grant application and award regulations.

- b. What are the benefits of doing this?

The Scottish Rite Cathedral facility serves as a long-time, valued community resource center in downtown Allentown.

- c. How does this bill relate to the City's vision/mission/priorities?

This bill supports the renovation costs of a multi-purpose community center that serves Allentown's Police and Fire Departments, non-profit organizations and other community groups as well as it brings visitors to Allentown for concerts and other entertainment.

- Funding Sources – Please include the following in your explanation:
 - a. If transferring funds, please make sure to give specific account names and numbers. If appropriating funds from a grant, please list the agency awarding the grant.

This is a PA Office of the Budget funded project, and all costs are covered by this grant. The total grant award is One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) to be allocated to the Grant Fund. All grant revenue will be appropriated to 005-6213 Grant Fund, RACP Grants. The expenses will be appropriated to the Grant Fund, 005-01-5201-0001-48.

- Priority status – Are there any deadlines to be aware of?

None at this time.

- Why should Council unanimously support this bill?

This bill will provide a funding source for this grant allocation and allow the AASR Lehigh Consistory to receive the \$1,000,000 awarded by the State Office of the Budget. There is no financial impact to the City, as this is a pass-through grant award.