Internship for Mayor Cranley at Cincinnati City Hall
Anna Oestreich

INTRODUCTION

Background
- I worked in Mayor Cranley’s office at Cincinnati City Hall from June to August 2020.
- Mayor John Cranley’s mission statement is “Mayor John Cranley believes that being part of something bigger than oneself is how to lead a meaningful life. Inspired by family and faith, Mayor Cranley believes that public service should prioritize the common good to leave the world better than we found it while helping those who are in need. Those are the values that he and his wife Dena are passing to their son Joseph, and the values that guide him as mayor.”
- I found it by doing a google search for policy internships in Cincinnati and the application was on the Cincinnati government website.

On the Job
- Answered phone calls, listened to constituents, and appropriately addressed questions and concerns.
- I also learned how government works day-to-day by attending council meetings and press conferences.
- I guided people through the process of completing the 2020 Census by tabling throughout the city.
- Everyday was different, but a typical day would be spent in the office of the mayor answering phone calls and gaining experience with local government. I gained more skills interacting with the public, and there was wonderful comradery and teamwork amongst me and my coworkers.

Reflection
- Advice for someone who wants to work for Mayor Cranley is to have another paid job on the side, since it is unpaid, and go after what you want to do. I would also say to be adaptable for whatever comes up because every day is different.
- My plans moving forward are that I will seek another internship next summer. I would like one with more of a sustainability focus. I could see a future where I work in policy, but I probably won’t focus on that in my career.
- Since we did this during a pandemic, the experience was different. At this internship, I must honestly say that people did not always wear masks when in the company of other people. I wish that the mask wearing rules had been enforced more. However, having people to talk to was wonderful after months of being stuck at home.

CONCLUSIONS
Overall, I learned a great deal about the workings of government and how change gets made on a day to day basis. It was an honor representing Mayor Cranley’s office and getting a look into the process of decision making.