

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS** the voters of the Akron-Summit County Public Library district in May 1984 approved a .89 mill temporary real estate property tax levy for operating the Akron-Summit County Public Library, renewed that levy in 1989, replaced that levy in 1994, renewed that levy in 1999; and

**WHEREAS** the voters of the Akron-Summit County Public Library district in March 2004 approved a 1.4 mill temporary real estate property tax levy for operating the Akron-Summit County Public Library, and replaced that levy in 2010; and

**WHEREAS** this levy generates approximately \$11 million annually to support the Library's services through Main Library, 17 branch libraries, a Mobile Services department, community meeting spaces, and free access to computer technology; and

**WHEREAS** since 1998 (prior to the library's building program), compared to 2013, the number of items borrowed has increased by 52%; the number of visits to library facilities has increased by 50%; the number of children attending Library programs has increased by 84%; the number of public computers available in library buildings has increased by 300%; the number of active registered individuals with library cards has increased by 48% and now numbers over 285,000; and

**WHEREAS** the Akron-Summit County Public Library has developed its community engagement and involvement in collaborative efforts to an unprecedented level; and

**WHEREAS** annual funding received from the State of Ohio has been reduced by approximately 25%, or \$3.6 million, since 2008, and is now at the same level as in 1996; and

**WHEREAS** the value of the 1.4 mill property tax levy was estimated to produce \$12.7 million in revenue in 2010, and now generates \$11 million due to loss in property value and reduction in Tangible Personnel Property Tax reimbursement; and

**WHEREAS** the library has reduced its annual operating budget in all areas since 2008, including a \$2 million reduction in personnel costs, resulting in 16% less staff (56 FTEs); a \$1 million reduction in funds to purchase books, CDs, DVDs, and ebooks; delayed replacement/upgrades of computers; deferred repairs/maintenance of facilities; and reduced hours of operation by 15% in 2014; and

**WHEREAS** the Summit County Fiscal Office has estimated that a renewal of 1.4 mills and an increase of 0.5 mills will generate approximately \$14.7 million in the first year of collection in 2016; and

**WHEREAS** a strong, viable public library contributes vitally to the quality of life in Akron and Summit County; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Akron-Summit County Public Library, appointed and organized pursuant to Sections 3375.22 and 3375.32 of the Ohio Revised Code, and acting pursuant to Sections 3375.23 and 3375.40 of the Ohio Revised Code, with at least two-thirds of all members thereof concurring, to request that the Council of the County of Summit, Ohio, place a 1.40 mill renewal and 0.50 mill increase temporary real estate tax levy (total 1.9 mills) for the current expenses of the public library on the ballot before the electors residing within the boundaries of the Akron-Summit County Public Library district for the Primary Election to be held on May 5, 2015, pursuant to Sections 5705.03, 5705.19 (D), 5705.191, and 5705.23 of the Ohio Revised Code. Said levy to appear on the 2015 tax duplicate for collection in 2016 and to run for a period of six (6) years commencing in 2016 at an estimated cost to the owner of a \$100,000 home of \$66.50 per year, or \$5.54 per month; and be it further

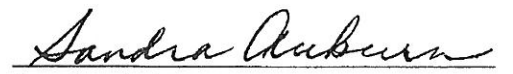
**RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Akron-Summit County Public Library, this day, December 11, 2014, to direct the Fiscal Officer of the Akron-Summit County Public Library to forward this resolution to the Executive of the County of Summit, the President of Council of the County of Summit, and the Fiscal Officer of the County of Summit forthwith.

Ayes Lolita Adair, Sandy Auburn, Mark Jackson, William D. Rich <sup>Ray Weber</sup>

Nays \_\_\_\_\_

Absent Bernie Rockford, John Fols, Jr.

  
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William D. Rich  
President, Board of Trustees  
Akron-Summit County Public Library

  
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Sandra Auburn  
Secretary, Board of Trustees  
Akron-Summit County Public Library