

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2025-118

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3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro

4
5 DATE April 14, 2025 COMMITTEE Human Services

6
7 **A Resolution declaring the month of May 2025 as Older Americans Month in Summit**
8 **County, recognizing the contributions of older adults in Summit County and encouraging**
9 **residents and professionals to participate in the Age-Friendly Akron-Summit initiative and**
10 **the 2025 Senior Summit Conference, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

11
12 WHEREAS, residents are living longer and healthier lives and by 2030, older adults are
13 expected to account for over 30% of the population of Summit County; and

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15 WHEREAS, older residents are active, adaptable, and vibrant members of the community
16 that may need additional considerations in recreation, transportation, housing, healthcare, civic
17 life, and communication to live full and joyful lives; and

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19 WHEREAS, our community supports older adults by promoting inclusion, independence,
20 and innovation through ongoing awareness and education efforts; and

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22 WHEREAS, Summit County was designated an Age-Friendly Community in 2019 by
23 AARP and finalized the Summit County Age-Friendly Strategic Plan in 2022; and

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25 WHEREAS, the strategic plan aligned closely with the City of Akron's Age-Friendly
26 Strategic Plan, leading to the merger of the initiatives in the summer of 2023; and

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28 WHEREAS, the Age-Friendly Akron-Summit initiative continues the work of both
29 strategic plans through a coalition that includes local governments, agencies, non-profits,
30 businesses, and residents; and

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32 WHEREAS, alongside Direction Home, Akron Canton Area Agency on Aging &
33 Disabilities, the County and City of Akron have worked diligently to support Age-Friendly
34 awareness and programming, including the new Age-Friendly Accreditation by the Better
35 Business Bureau of Akron unveiled in May 2023 at the Akron Zoo with the support of VANTAGE
36 Aging; and

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38 WHEREAS, as of March 2025, there are 28 local businesses that have gone through the
39 process of becoming accredited as Age-Friendly Businesses through the Better Business Bureau
40 of Akron, meeting certain criteria designed to provide quality and accessible services to older
41 adults involving a business's physical environment, marketing materials, staff and personnel, and
42 overall customer experience; and

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44 WHEREAS, businesses and organizations are encouraged to apply for Age-Friendly
45 Accreditation and eligible residents are encouraged to apply for support from the Aging In Place
46 Program; and

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48 WHEREAS, professionals are encouraged to register for the 2025 Senior Summit
49 Conference, an informative and educational event providing social workers, registered nurses,
50 those in the legal profession, those who work with older adults, and more, with continuing
51 education credits (CEUs and CLEs) with a seminar focused on a variety of topics relating to older
52 adults; and

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4 WHEREAS, these initiatives and more are part of ongoing work to make Summit County
5 an even better place to live, work, and play, as well as age, retire, and thrive for years to come;
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7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State
8 of Ohio, that:
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10 SECTION 1

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12 The month of May 2025 is hereby declared Older Americans Month in Summit County,
13 and the residents of Summit County are encouraged to join in this acknowledgement of older adults
14 and the people who support them as essential members of our community and to participate in
15 both the Age-Friendly Akron-Summit initiative and the 2025 Senior Summit.
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17 SECTION 2

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19 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
20 welfare of the residents and employees of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of
21 immediately declaring May 2025 as Older Americans Month in Summit County.
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23 SECTION 3

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25 Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight (8) members, it shall take
26 effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take effect
27 and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.
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29 SECTION 4

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31 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating
32 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all
33 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were
34 in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22
35 of the Ohio Revised Code.
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38 INTRODUCED April 14, 2025

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40 ADOPTED _____

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44 CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

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46 APPROVED _____

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49 _____
50 EXECUTIVE

51
52 ENACTED EFFECTIVE _____