

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2025-123 **First Reading Passage Requested**
2 **(M. Evans)**
3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro
4
5 DATE April 28, 2025 COMMITTEE Planning
6
7 **A Resolution approving the transfer of the grant of authority for Foreign Trade Zone 181**
8 **from the Northeast Ohio Joint Office of Economic Development to the Summit County**
9 **Development Finance Authority, and authorizing the dissolution of the Northeast Ohio**
10 **Joint Office of Economic Development after such transfer is approved by the U.S.**
11 **Department of Commerce, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, and declaring an emergency.**
12
13 WHEREAS, Summit County is a member county of the Northeast Ohio Joint Office of
14 Economic Development (the “JOED”), which is comprised of Richland County, Ohio; Stark
15 County, Ohio; and Summit County, Ohio; and
16
17 WHEREAS, the JOED was organized to operate a foreign trade zone, and was the
18 grantee of Foreign Trade Zone (“FTZ”) 181 under a grant of authority by the U.S. Department of
19 Commerce, Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the “FTZ Board”) pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 81a-81u; and
20
21 WHEREAS, FTZ 181 has a territory encompassing Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning,
22 Columbiana, Portage, Summit, Stark, Medina, Wayne and Richland Counties in Ohio; and
23
24 WHEREAS, pursuant to an agreement dated April 1, 2019 between the JOED and
25 Summit County, Summit County is the administrator of the JOED and FTZ 181; and
26
27 WHEREAS, the FTZ Board has called into question the JOED’s authority under Ohio
28 law to act as the grantee of FTZ 181; and
29
30 WHEREAS, in response to the FTZ Board’s concerns, Summit County has recommended
31 that the grant of authority for FTZ 181 be transferred to the Summit County Development
32 Finance Authority (the “DFA”), an Ohio port authority; and
33
34 WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 3 of the JOED Amended Cooperative Agreement dated
35 April 1, 2019, said transfer of the grant of authority for FTZ 181 to the DFA requires legislative
36 action by each of the three member counties; and
37
38 WHEREAS, this Council has determined that it is in the best interests of Summit County
39 and FTZ 181 to transfer said grant of authority from the JOED to the DFA; and
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41 WHEREAS, upon said transfer from the JOED to the DFA being effectuated by the FTZ
42 Board, the JOED will have no further purpose; and
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44 WHEREAS, this Council wishes to authorize the dissolution of the JOED upon the
45 transfer of FTZ 181 to the DFA being approved by the FTZ Board;
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4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State
5 of Ohio, that;

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7 SECTION 1

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9 (a) The Northeast Ohio Joint Office of Economic Development (the “JOED”) and Summit
10 County, in cooperation with the Summit County Development Finance Authority (the
11 “DFA”), are authorized to make application to the FTZ Board and to take all necessary
12 actions to transfer the grant of authority for FTZ 181 to the DFA.

13 (b) Summit County, as administrator for the JOED, is authorized to transfer FTZ 181 records
14 to the DFA or retain such records as it determines appropriate according to Ohio law.

15 (c) Upon the FTZ Board’s approval of the transfer of the grant of authority for FTZ 181 to
16 the DFA, and without the need for further action by this Council, this Council authorizes
17 the dissolution and termination of the JOED pursuant to Sections 9 and 10 of the JOED
18 Amended Cooperative Agreement. Should the FTZ Board determine not to approve the
19 transfer of the grant of authority for FTZ 181 to the DFA, the dissolution of the JOED
20 shall not become effective.

21 (d) This Council, pursuant to Section 8 of the JOED Amended Cooperative Agreement,
22 hereby requests a Special Meeting of the JOED Council be scheduled by the JOED
23 Chairman to take actions consistent with this Resolution.

24 (e) This Council authorizes Summit County’s representative to the JOED, Executive Ilene
25 Shapiro, and alternate, Diane Miller-Dawson, to vote for the transfer of FTZ 181 to the
26 DFA and to vote for the dissolution of the JOED consistent with this Resolution at the
27 JOED Council meeting being called for this purpose, and to provide the JOED Council
28 with a copy of this Resolution.

29
30 SECTION 2

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32 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
33 welfare of the residents of Summit County, and for the further purpose to immediately authorize
34 this Council’s representative to the JOED Council to carry out the actions authorized herein.

35
36 SECTION 3

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38 Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members, it shall take
39 effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take
40 effect and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

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4 SECTION 4

6 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating
7 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all
8 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action,
9 were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section
10 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

14 INTRODUCED April 28, 2025

16 ADOPTED April 28, 2025

17 Signed by:

18 Monique Willis

20 CLERK OF COUNCIL

DocuSigned by:

Rita J. Darrow

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

22 APPROVED April 28, 2025

23 Signed by:

24 Gene Shapiro

27 EXECUTIVE 40D287473...

Voice Vote – YES: 11 – 0: Darrow, Dickinson,
Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate,
McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

29 ENACTED EFFECTIVE April 29, 2025