

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2025-240

First Reading Passage Requested

(G. Johnson)

2
3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro

4
5 DATE September 8, 2025

COMMITTEE Public Safety

6
7 **A Resolution declaring the month of September 2025 as Preparedness Month in Summit**
8 **County, promoting family, community disaster and emergency preparation for the residents**
9 **of Summit County, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

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11 WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) has recognized
12 September as Preparedness Month since 2004 with the aim of heightening readiness for disasters
13 and emergencies; and

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15 WHEREAS, local emergency managers, emergency managers across all sectors,
16 community leaders, State governments, and FEMA dedicate countless hours to developing
17 preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation programs to protect the lives and property of all
18 persons living in the United States and U.S. territories; and

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20 WHEREAS, emergency managers across the United States and U.S. territories are charged
21 with establishing and maintaining the capabilities necessary to effectively direct, coordinate, and
22 support emergency and disaster response and recovery efforts; and

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24 WHEREAS, natural disasters and emergencies such as floods, droughts, thunderstorms,
25 blizzards, tornadoes, earthquakes, fires, mudslides, epidemics, pandemics, industrial accidents,
26 and mass shooting incidents require planning to ensure that a rapid response can save lives and
27 prevent further injuries or damages; and

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29 WHEREAS, Summit County leaders recognize that no community is immune from
30 disasters and emergencies; and

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32 WHEREAS, the Summit County Executive’s Department of Public Safety and Emergency
33 Management Agency (“EMA”) are dedicated to ensuring local public safety forces and residents
34 are well equipped to protect themselves and their families from potential disasters and
35 emergencies; and

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37 WHEREAS, previously, this Council passed Resolution No. 2024-078, approving the
38 Summit County Hazard Mitigation Plan created by EMA in coordination with local planning
39 agencies, police and fire chiefs, and each of the 31 communities in Summit County to guide
40 decisionmakers in reducing risks from natural hazards and to serve as the basis for the State of
41 Ohio to provide technical and funding assistance; and

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43 WHEREAS, EMA offers innovative means of communication to keep residents informed,
44 including the Reverse Alert program and the EMA mobile app; and

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46 WEHREAS, residents can sign up with Reverse Alert to receive emergency warnings and
47 alerts by phone, email, and devices for the hard of hearing to stay informed of imminent threats to
48 health and safety; and

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WHEREAS, residents can also download the EMA app which provides push notifications similar to Reverse Alert alongside features such as free access to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (“NOAA”) weather radio system, traffic and road closure information from the Ohio Department of Transportation, and the ability to create and share personal emergency plans with family and friends; and

WHEREAS, four organizations, Victim Assistance Program of Summit County, the City of Tallmadge, Cleveland Clinic Akron General, and most recently, Summit County Public Health participated in EMA’s Summit Ready program, a free, voluntary emergency management certification program offered to all 31 communities in Summit County and all Summit County organizations; and

WHEREAS, through these programs, Summit County residents are better prepared to protect themselves and their loved ones in the event of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, Summit County EMA works closely with every community in the County to plan for and respond to disasters and emergencies, and coordinates resources throughout Summit County; and

WHEREAS, residents can continue to engage with these efforts by visiting Ready.gov to better understand potential threats and the steps they can take to prepare for disasters and emergencies; and

WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information, that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit and its residents that September 2025 be declared Preparedness Month in Summit County, promoting family and community disaster and emergency planning for residents of Summit County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State of Ohio, that:

SECTION 1

The month of September 2025 is hereby declared Preparedness Month in Summit County, and the residents of Summit County are encouraged to join in this acknowledgement.

SECTION 2

This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the residents and employees of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of declaring September 2025 to be Preparedness Month in Summit County.

SECTION 3

Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight (8) members, it shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take 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, were
9 in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22
10 of the Ohio Revised Code.

13 INTRODUCED September 8, 2025

15 ADOPTED September 8, 2025

Signed by:

Monique Willis

19 CLERK OF COUNCIL

DocuSigned by:

Rita J. Darrow

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

21 APPROVED September 8, 2025

Signed by:

Steve Shapiro

25 EXECUTIVE

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

27 ENACTED EFFECTIVE September 9, 2025