RESOLUTION NO. 2012-031

SPONSOR Mr. Pry and Council of the Whole

DATE February 13, 2012

COMMITTEE Planning

A Resolution endorsing and supporting the Summit Food Policy Coalition’s Summit County Food Charter and encouraging other communities in Summit County to do the same, for the Executive’s Department of Community and Economic Development, and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, Summit County is home to an economically vibrant local and regional food industry that permits all residents to obtain and prepare nutritious local food; and

WHEREAS, the Summit Food Policy Coalition is a local organization dedicated to improving healthy food access for all Summit County residents and spurring economic opportunities for existing and beginning farmers; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the Summit Food Policy Coalition and several other local organizations held the Growing Hope Food Summit in Summit County to “create a shared awareness of our local food system and its gaps, launch a movement to increase access to healthy food, explore ways to strengthen the local food economy and connect and begin to empower Summit County residents to act collectively;” and

WHEREAS, to accomplish its mission and the mission of the Growing Hope Food Summit, the Summit Food Policy Coalition has developed a Summit County Food Charter aimed at guiding individual and community actions for the support of a local food and regional food industry; and

WHEREAS, the Summit Food Policy Coalition has asked this Council to endorse and support the Summit County Food Charter, and will ask other local governments in Summit County to do the same, in order to spur action among governments, businesses and residents in Summit County to support and grow the local and regional food industry; and

WHEREAS, a healthy and vibrant local and regional food industry is important to the economic health, environmental health and the health of the residents of Summit County and northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information, that it is necessary and in the best interest of this Council to endorse and support the Summit Food Policy Coalition’s Summit County Food Charter;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County of the County of Summit, State of Ohio, that:
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SECTION 1

This Council hereby endorses and supports the Summit Food Policy Coalition’s Summit County Food Charter, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, and incorporated herein by reference, and commits to take all reasonable steps to fulfill the initiatives set forth in the same. This Council further authorizes the Executive to take any steps necessary to more formally endorse the Summit County Food Charter, including, but not limited to, executing the same on behalf of the County.

SECTION 2

All other communities in Summit County are hereby encouraged to endorse and support the Summit County Food Charter within their individual communities and to take all reasonable steps to fulfill the initiatives set forth in the same.

SECTION 3

This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the County of Summit and for the further reason that it is necessary to immediately endorse and support the Summit County Food Charter so that the same can be presented and endorsed by other Summit County communities as expeditiously as possible.

SECTION 4

Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight 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.

SECTION 5

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

INTRODUCED January 30, 2012

ADOPTED February 13, 2012

CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED February 14, 2012

EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Voice Vote: 9-0 Yes: Comunale, Crawford, Feeman, Kostandaras, Kurt, Lee, Rodgers, Roemer, Schmidt. Absent: Prentice, Shapiro