A Resolution supporting the Tinkers Creek Greenway Expansion Project in Twinsburg Township, located in Council District 1, by Metro Parks Serving Summit County, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, this Council recognizes the wishes of residents to preserve open space and create opportunities for passive outdoor recreation; and

WHEREAS, Metro Parks Serving Summit County, in conjunction with the Western Reserve Land Conservancy desire to acquire land in Twinsburg Township, Council District 1 for the Tinkers Creek Greenway Expansion Project ("Project"); and

WHEREAS, the land proposed for acquisition contains a segment of Tinkers Creek, an important tributary to the Cuyahoga River; and

WHEREAS, the proposed acquisition will help protect Summit County's green infrastructure by preserving wetland and the riparian areas and floodplains surrounding Tinkers Creek; and

WHEREAS, the land proposed for acquisition is located adjacent to existing permanently protected land and will expand the size of the existing greenway that surrounds Tinkers Creek and encompasses almost 3,000 acres owned by the State of Ohio, Metro Parks Serving Summit County, the City of Twinsburg and Western Reserve Land Conservancy; and

WHEREAS, the proposed acquisition will provide additional public access points along Ravenna Road and create new opportunities for public hiking, birding and other outdoor activities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed acquisition will help implement recommendations from the Tinkers Creek Watershed Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Project will help Summit County implement a strategic policy recommended in the 2006 Summit County General Plan ("Plan") to link new park facilities to existing parks, and will help the County realize its larger goals of preserving green infrastructure and protecting the natural environment by minimizing the conflict between existing natural conditions and future patterns of urban development; and

WHEREAS, the Tinkers Creek Greenway/Trail is recognized as one of three "Super Priority Areas" targeted for preservation efforts in the Plan; and

WHEREAS, this Council has determined by reviewing all pertinent information that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County for this Council to express the County's support for the Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State of Ohio, that:
RESOLUTION NO. 2014-070

PAGE TWO

SECTION 1

This Council hereby expresses its support of the Tinkers Creek Greenway Expansion Project in Twinsburg Township, located in Council District 1, by Metro Parks Serving Summit County.

SECTION 2

This Resolution is 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 to immediately express support for the Tinkers Creek Greenway Expansion Project in order to allow Metro Parks Serving Summit County and the Western Reserve Land Conservancy timely funding for the Project.

SECTION 3

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 4

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 of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

INTRODUCED January 27, 2014

ADOPTED February 10, 2014

CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED February 11, 2014

EXECUTIVE

ENACTED EFFECTIVE February 10, 2014

Voice Vote: 11-0 YES: Comunale, Crawford, Feeman, Kostandaras, Kurt, Lee, Prentice, Rodgers, Roemer, Schmidt, Shapiro