

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2018-456

**First Reading Passage Requested**  
(J. Wilhite)

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3 SPONSORS Ms. Shapiro and Mr. Wilhite

4  
5 DATE November 19, 2018

COMMITTEE Planning

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7 **A Resolution declaring the County of Summit's approval and support for the Merriman**  
8 **Valley Conservation Project, in the City of Akron, in Council District 4, to be submitted by**  
9 **the West Creek Conservancy to the Natural Resources Assistance Council District 8 for**  
10 **funding under the Clean Ohio Program, for the Council and the Executive, and declaring**  
11 **an emergency**

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13 WHEREAS, the West Creek Conservancy intends to submit a grant application for the  
14 Merriman Valley Conservation Project (the "Project"), in the City of Akron, in Council District  
15 4, to the National Resources Assistance Council (the "NRAC") District 8 for recommendation to  
16 the Ohio Public Works Commission for funding through the Clean Ohio Program; and

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18 WHEREAS, in order to submit the grant application to be submitted to the NRAC  
19 District 8 in a timely fashion, a resolution of approval and support of the Project by the County is  
20 required pursuant to Section 164.23(B)(1) of the Ohio Revised Code; and

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22 WHEREAS, the Project will result in the fee-simple purchase and permanent  
23 conservation of approximately 140 acres of land as a nature preserve ("the Property"); and

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25 WHEREAS, the Project will protect approximately 12,000 linear feet of high quality  
26 primary headwater habitat streams in the Mud Brook and Boston Run Watersheds; and

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28 WHEREAS, the West Creek Conservancy intends to allow use of the Property by the  
29 general public for hiking and passive recreation, as well as organized groups for nature study and  
30 research, including the universities and the Summit Metro Park System; and

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32 WHEREAS, the Property contains unique habitat identified as potential sites for state-  
33 listed rare and sensitive species; and

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35 WHEREAS, the Property contains potential for Ohio cultural resources such as Native  
36 American earthworks; and

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38 WHEREAS, the protection of high-quality natural sites is beneficial to the local economy  
39 and quality of life of its residents by providing additional venues for nature-based recreation, and

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41 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information,  
42 that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit to declare its approval and  
43 support for the Project to be submitted to the NRAC District 8 for funding through the Clean  
44 Ohio Fund.

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46 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State  
47 of Ohio, that:  
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1 RESOLUTION NO. 2018-456

2 SECTION 2

3  
4 SECTION 1

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6 This Council hereby approves and supports the Merriman Valley Conservation Project  
7 (the "Project"), in the City of Akron, in Council District 4, to be submitted by the West Creek  
8 Conservancy to the National Resources Assistance Council (the "NRAC") District 8 for  
9 recommendation to the Ohio Public Works Commission for funding, through the Clean Ohio  
10 Program, in order to permanently conserve approximately 140 acres of land as a nature preserve.

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12 SECTION 2

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14 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety, and  
15 welfare of the residents of the County of Summit, and for the further reason to immediately  
16 provide a necessary prerequisite for the West Creek Conservancy to timely submit its grant  
17 application to NRAC District 8.

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19 SECTION 3

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

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25 SECTION 4

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27 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating  
28 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all  
29 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action,  
30 were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section  
31 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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33 INTRODUCED November 19, 2018

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35 ADOPTED November 19, 2018

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39 CLERK OF COUNCIL

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47 PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

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41 APPROVED November 20, 2018

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45 EXECUTIVE

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47 ENACTED EFFECTIVE November 20, 2018

Voice Vote - YES 9-0: Dickinson, Feeman, Hamilton, Koehler,  
Prentice, Rodgers, Schmidt, Soyars, Wilhite  
ABSENT: Donofrio, Walters