

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2024-125

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3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro, Council as a Whole

4

5 DATE April 15, 2024 COMMITTEE Human Services

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7 **A Resolution declaring the month of May 2024 as Older Americans Month in Summit**
8 **County, recognizing the contributions of older adults in Summit County and encouraging**
9 **residents and professionals to participate in the Age-Friendly Akron-Summit initiative and**
10 **the 2024 Senior Summit and Expo, for the Council and Executive, and declaring an**
11 **emergency.**

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13 WHEREAS, residents are living longer and healthier lives and by 2030, older adults are
14 expected to account for over 30% of the population of Summit County; and

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16 WHEREAS, older residents are active, adaptable, and vibrant members of the community
17 that may need additional considerations in recreation, transportation, housing, healthcare, civic
18 life, and communication to live full and joyful lives; and

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20 WHEREAS, our community supports older adults by promoting inclusion, independence,
21 and innovation through ongoing awareness and education efforts; and

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23 WHEREAS, Summit County was designated an Age-Friendly Community in 2019 by
24 AARP and finalized the Summit County Age-Friendly Strategic Plan in 2022; and

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26 WHEREAS, the strategic plan aligned closely with the City of Akron's Age-Friendly
27 Strategic Plan, leading to the merger of the initiatives in the summer of 2023; and

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29 WHEREAS, the Age-Friendly Akron-Summit initiative continues the work of both
30 strategic plans through a coalition that includes local governments, agencies, non-profits,
31 businesses, and residents; and

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33 WHEREAS, alongside Direction Home Akron Canton Area Agency on Aging &
34 Disabilities, the County and City of Akron have worked diligently to support Age-Friendly
35 awareness and programming, including the new Age-Friendly Accreditation by the Better
36 Business Bureau of Akron unveiled in May 2023 at the Akron Zoo with the support of VANTAGE
37 Aging; and

38

39 WHEREAS, Direction Home Akron Canton has also been a key partner in the launch and
40 administration of the Aging In Place Program, which leverages a \$4 million grant from the County
41 toward home care, home modification, and digital education for older adults; and

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43 WHEREAS, businesses and organizations are encouraged to apply for Age-Friendly
44 Accreditation and eligible residents are encouraged to apply for support from the Aging In Place
45 Program; and

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47 WHEREAS, residents are also encouraged to attend the 2024 Senior Summit and Expo
48 hosted by VANTAGE Aging, with the Expo on May 18, 2024 offering a host of fun activities,
49 speakers, services, and more at Firestone CLC; and

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51 WHEREAS, these initiatives and more are part of ongoing work to make Summit County
52 an even better place to live, work, and play, as well as age, retire, and thrive for years to come;

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2 PAGE TWO

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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 The month of May 2024 is hereby declared Older Americans Month in Summit County,
10 and the residents of Summit County are encouraged to join in this acknowledgement of older adults
11 and the people who support them as essential members of our community and to participate in
12 both the Age-Friendly Akron-Summit initiative and the 2024 Senior Summit and Expo.

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14 SECTION 2

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16 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
17 welfare of the residents and employees of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of
18 immediately declaring May 2024 as Older Americans Month in Summit County.

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20 SECTION 3

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22 Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight (8) members, it shall take
23 effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take effect
24 and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

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26 SECTION 4

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

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35 INTRODUCED April 15, 2024

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38 ADOPTED April 29, 2024

39 DocuSigned by:

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41 _____

42 CLERK OF COUNCIL
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45 APPROVED April 29, 2024

46 DocuSigned by:

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49 EXECUTIVE
BD33E40D287473...

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52 ENACTED EFFECTIVE April 30, 2024

DocuSigned by:

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42 PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL
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Voice Vote – YES: 11 – 0: Darrow, DeVitis,
Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, McKenney, Rodgers,
Schmidt, Walters, Wiedie Higham, Wilhite