

RESOLUTION #15-2011

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FURNACE RUN BALANCED GROWTH PLAN

WHEREAS, The State of Ohio, through the Ohio Lake Erie commission's Balanced Growth Program, has identified the need to enhance protection of the State's waters and Lake Erie by supporting local governments to improve planning for development and conservation; and

WHEREAS, Furnace Run is an important part of the Cuyahoga River and Lake Erie ecosystem, providing storm water management, and important downstream recreational opportunities and wildlife habitat, including Metroparks Serving Summit County's Furnace Run Metropark and the Cuyahoga Valley National Park; and

WHEREAS, The Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization has organized local government participation in the Furnace Run Watershed Planning Partnership and supported it in developing the Furnace Run Balanced Growth Plan that identifies priority areas for conservation and development; and

WHEREAS, The Furnace Run Watershed Partners and the Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization are to seek endorsement of this Balanced Growth Plan by the Ohio Lake Erie Commission in order to permit the local governments in the watershed to seek the benefits and incentives provided by such endorsement; and

WHEREAS, The Priority Development Areas, Priority Conservation Areas and Priority Agricultural Areas identified in the Furnace Run Balanced Growth Plan are to be used by State of Ohio agencies to guide state activities and programs affecting these areas, and they will serve as the basis for special incentive programs to be directed to the Furnace Run watershed communities; and

WHEREAS, the designation of such areas and access to such benefits will assist Richfield Township to minimize future flooding, erosion and water quality problems, threats to infrastructure, and reliance on costly engineered solutions to stormwater problems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP THAT:

Section 1. The Board of Trustees of Richfield Township supports the Furnace Run Watershed Balanced Growth Plan.

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Section 2. The Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization is directed to seek endorsement of this Balanced Growth Watershed plan by the Ohio Lake Erie Commission in order to permit the local governments in the watershed to seek the benefits and incentives.

Section 3. The Priority Development Areas, Priority Conservation Areas and Priority Agricultural Areas identified in the Balanced Growth Watershed Plan maybe used by State of Ohio Agencies to guide state activities and programs and they will serve as the basis for special incentives programs to be directed to the Furnace Run watershed and the governmental jurisdictions within it.

Section 4. The Board of Trustees of Richfield Township will work collaboratively with the Furnace Run Watershed Partnership and the Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization.

Date

Laurie Peters Gilmore, Township Trustee

David R. Wyatt, Township Trustee

Janet Jankura, Township Trustee

Attest:

Laurie Pinney, Township Fiscal Officer