ARTICLE VII--ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SECTION 7.01 COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

The County shall have as a primary responsibility the promotion and enhancement of the economic well-being and prosperity of the County and all of its residents. In furtherance of that purpose, the County shall, as authorized by the Constitution of Ohio, general law, and this Charter and enactments pursuant thereto, develop and implement policies, programs and activities for the expansion and enhancement of economic activity in the County so as to create and preserve jobs and employment opportunities for and available to residents of the County. In furtherance of this purpose, the County shall appropriate money and enter into agreements and otherwise cooperate with officers, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States of America, the State of Ohio, with other political subdivisions, and with public and private persons, firms and corporations, foundations, and individuals and institutions, and may accept and make gifts, grants, and loans and other economic incentives.

[Effective January 1, 2010]

SECTION 7.02 DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT.

There shall be a Department of Development, under the direction of the Director of Development, which shall develop, direct and implement programs and activities for carrying out the purposes of this Article VII.

The Department of Development shall coordinate the programs and activities of the officers, departments, agencies, boards and commissions of the County that relate to economic development, including identification of the causes of unemployment and economic underdevelopment among segments of the population and within communities in the County and the development of programs and activities to remedy such conditions.

[Effective January 1, 2010]

SECTION 7.03 DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT: APPOINTMENT AND QUALIFICATIONS.

The Director of Development shall be appointed by the County Executive, subject to confirmation by the Council, and shall report to and serve at the pleasure of,

the County Executive. The Director of Development shall have had a demonstrated record of experience and accomplishment, in the public or private sector, or both, in economic development matters.

[Effective January 1, 2010]

SECTION 7.04 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION.
There shall be an Economic Development Commission the members of which shall be selected and qualified as follows: One member shall be selected by each of the following: the County Executive; the Council; the mayor of the city of Cleveland; the Cleveland-Cuyahoga Port Authority; the Cuyahoga County Mayors and Managers Association, the Greater Cleveland Partnership, or their respective successors; the Executive Secretary of the North Shore Federation of Labor, or similar officer of a successor organization. One member shall be selected collectively by the nonprofit and educational organizations that are engaged in the promotion of economic development of the County, as shall be designated by the Council. Those members shall select one additional member.

Membership on the Economic Development Commission shall not constitute the holding of office or employment with the County. The members shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Any vacancy in the membership of the Economic Development Commission shall be filled in the same manner as that of the person whose position has been vacated.

The Economic Development Commission shall adopt its own rules and bylaws for its organization and procedures. It shall meet at least quarterly and shall be provided with such facilities and staff assistance as shall be necessary for the Economic Development Council to carry out its duties. The County Executive and the Director of Development shall keep the Economic Development Commission informed of current and anticipated economic development activities and opportunities, except as necessary to preserve confidentiality of such matters as business plans and trade secrets of private parties.

[Effective January 1, 2010]

SECTION 7.05 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

The Director of Development, in conjunction with the County Executive and in consultation with the Economic Development Commission, shall prepare and present to the Council by the first day of June of each year a proposed five-year economic development plan for the County, for actions to be carried out by the County itself, and in cooperation with other public and private agencies and organizations, for the purpose of enhancing the prosperity and well-being of the County and its residents and communities. If the Council shall fail to adopt the proposed plan, with such changes as the Council shall deem advisable, within sixty days of its presentation to the Council, the plan shall be deemed to be adopted. The economic development plan shall be reviewed and revised annually in accordance with the foregoing procedures.

[Effective January 1, 2010]