

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Ordinance No. O2011-0009

Sponsored by: County Executive FitzGerald and Councilmember Miller	An Ordinance authorizing the creation of a Department of Regional Collaboration under the supervision of the County Executive to advocate for and promote cooperation and collaboration with and among the State of Ohio and other political subdivisions, and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.
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WHEREAS, the Preamble to the Charter of Cuyahoga County lists, among others, the following overarching goals: a) collaborative leadership with Cleveland, suburbs and other within the public and private sectors and b) improved focus on equity for all our communities and citizens and c) long-term regional and global competitiveness; and,

WHEREAS, Section 2.03(3) of the Charter grants the County Executive the power and duty to advocate for and promote cooperation and collaboration with other political subdivisions; and,

WHEREAS, Section 7.01 of the Charter, County Economic Development, declares that 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; and,

WHEREAS, County Executive FitzGerald has identified regional collaboration as a priority for his Administration to encourage greater cooperation among communities in Cuyahoga County and the region, and to foster efforts that will lead to efficiencies and will promote economic development; and,

WHEREAS, the need for collaboration is urgent in light of declining local revenues, impending cuts in the Local Government Fund appropriations of the State of Ohio and the need for unified approaches to planning, project support and regional initiatives; and,

WHEREAS, recognizing the same need, the County Transition Executive Committee, comprised of community leaders and engaged volunteers, made establishing the position of Director of Regional Collaboration a priority; and,

WHEREAS, Section 3.09(2) of the Charter grants Council the power to establish departments, and divisions and sections within departments, under the supervision of the County Executive, and such boards, agencies, commissions, and authorities, in

addition to or as part of those provided for in the Charter, as the Council determines to be necessary for the efficient administration of the County; and,

WHEREAS, The Council of Cuyahoga County has determined that the creation of a County Department of Regional Collaboration is necessary for the efficient administration of the County; and,

WHEREAS, Section 3.09(5) of the Charter of Cuyahoga County grants Council the power to adopt and amend the County's annual tax budget, operating budget and capital improvements program to make appropriations for the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. A Department of Regional Collaboration under the supervision of the County Executive is hereby established to advocate for and promote cooperation and collaboration with and among the State of Ohio and other political subdivisions.

SECTION 2. The specific goals, duties and activities of the Department of Regional Collaboration shall be further determined by the County Executive who shall employ and supervise a Director and such number of deputies, assistants and employees as shall be reasonably necessary to assist the County Executive in carrying out the duties of the new Department of Regional Collaboration.

SECTION 3. That, a proposed operating budget shall be presented to Council for approval at such time as the County Executive is able to create a schedule of estimated revenues and proposed expenditures for the Department of Regional Collaboration.

SECTION 4. It is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue, and to continue the usual and daily operation of the County. Provided that this Ordinance receives the affirmative vote of eight members of Council, this Ordinance shall become immediately effective upon the signature of the County Executive.

SECTION 5. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of the 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.

On a motion by Mr. Schron, seconded by Mr. Germana, the foregoing Ordinance was duly enacted.

Yeas: Connally, Rogers, Simon, Greenspan, Miller, Brady, Germana, Gallagher, Schron, Conwell and Jones

Nays: None

County Council President

Date

County Executive

Date

Clerk of Council

Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: February 15, 2011

Committee(s) Assigned: Economic Development & Planning and Intergovernmental Relations & Collaboration

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