

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2019-0185

<p>Sponsored by: Councilmember Simon on behalf of Cuyahoga County Planning Commission</p> <p>Co-sponsored by: Councilmember Stephens</p>	<p>A Resolution supporting an application for funding under the Clean Ohio Fund Green Space Conservation Program available through the Ohio Public Works Commission on behalf of Gates Mills Land Conservancy for the conservation of ecologically significant areas in Clark Forest Preserve in the Village of Gates Mills; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.</p>
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WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County has received a request from Gates Mills Land Conservancy for a resolution supporting an application for funding under the Clean Ohio Fund Green Space Conservation Program available through the Ohio Public Works Commission on behalf of Gates Mills Land Conservancy for the conservation of ecologically significant areas in Clark Forest Preserve in the Village of Gates Mills, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 164.23; and

WHEREAS, Gates Mills Land Conservancy seeks to preserve 73.7 acres of old growth forest, ravines, and high-quality streams on the Sherman Road which drain to the State Scenic Chagrin River. The project includes the 36.7 acre Clark property which became available from the Estate of owner Jane Clark. Other properties included are an adjacent 25 acre and a 12 acre parcel across Sherman Road that are owned by the Gates Mills Land Conservancy. Conservation easements would be placed on all three properties. Success on this endeavor would be the latest accomplishment towards preserving natural areas along Sherman Road, a scenic corridor in the Village. Gates Mills Land Conservancy will permanently preserve this natural area, protect habitat, and provide year-round access to a portion of the property by the public. The project also includes restoration efforts to address invasive species and preserve habitat quality; and

WHEREAS, the project is known as “Clark Forest Preserve” and is located in County Council District No. 6; and

WHEREAS, the total estimated project cost is \$2,042,000.00, of which \$400,000.00 is estimated for the Clean Ohio application; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 164.23 provides that “an entity seeking a grant for a project that is eligible for funding shall submit an application to the natural resources assistance council with geographical jurisdiction over the proposed

project area;” and, Ohio Revised Code Section 164.23(B) further provides that “in addition to the application, an applicant for a grant for a project shall include a copy of a resolution supporting the project from each county in which the proposed project is to be conducted;” and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Public Works Commission provides financial assistance to Natural Resources Assistance Councils for the purpose of preserving open spaces, sensitive ecological areas, and stream corridors; and

WHEREAS, the applications for the fourteenth-round funding under the Clean Ohio Fund Green Space Conservation Program are due on October 11, 2019 to the Cuyahoga County Natural Resources Assistance Council; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order to meet the application deadline required by the Cuyahoga County Natural Resources Assistance Council.

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

SECTION 1. That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby supports the submission of an application for funding under the Clean Ohio Fund Green Space Conservation Program available through the Ohio Public Works Commission on behalf of Gates Mills Land Conservancy for the conservation of ecologically significant areas in Clark Forest Preserve in the Village of Gates Mills and known as the “Clark Forest Preserve Project”.

SECTION 2. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County; the preservation of public peace, health, or safety in the County; and any additional reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon the earliest occurrence of any of the following: (1) its approval by the County Executive through signature, (2) the expiration of the time during which it may be disapproved by the County Executive under Section 3.10(6) of the Cuyahoga County Charter, or (3) its passage by at least eight members of Council after disapproval pursuant to Section 3.10(7) of the Cuyahoga County Charter. Otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

SECTION 3. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution 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 Ms. Simon, seconded by Ms. Brown, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas: Tuma, Gallagher, Schron, Conwell, Jones, Brown, Stephens, Simon, Baker, Miller and Brady

Nays: None

County Council President

Date

County Executive

Date

Clerk of Council

Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: September 10, 2019

Committee(s) Assigned: Education, Environment & Sustainability

Additional Sponsorship Requested: September 18, 2019

Committee Report/Second Reading: September 24, 2019

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October 8, 2019