

# County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

## Resolution No. R2019-0186

<p>Sponsored by: <b>Councilmember Simon on behalf of Cuyahoga County Planning Commission</b></p> <p>Co-sponsored by: <b>Councilmembers Brown and Stephens</b></p>	<p><b>A Resolution</b> supporting an application for funding under the Clean Ohio Fund Green Space Conservation Program available through the Ohio Public Works Commission on behalf of Village of Orange for the conservation of ecologically significant areas in the Chagrin River and Tinker’s Creek Headwaters Wetland Protection in the Village of Orange; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.</p>
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WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County has received a request from Orange Village 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 the Village of Orange for the conservation of ecologically significant areas in the Chagrin River and Tinker’s Creek Headwaters Wetland Protection in the Village of Orange, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 164.23; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Orange seeks to permanently protect approximately 56 acres of land along the drainage divide between the Chagrin River and Tinker’s Creek watersheds in the Village of Orange. This project will include five parcels (Permanent Parcel Numbers: 901-03-022, 901-03-023, 901-03-027, 901-03-032 and 901-05-002), which are located near the Interstate 271/Harvard Road interchange in the Village of Orange. This land includes numerous wetlands that eventually drain to Wiley Creek, a tributary to the Chagrin River and Hawthorne Creek, a tributary to Tinker’s Creek. Downstream Ohio EPA monitoring locations indicate that Wiley Creek is in partial attainment of its cold-water habitat aquatic life use designation and Hawthorne Creek is non-attainment of its warm-water habitat aquatic life use designation. The area surrounding the Interstate 271/Harvard Road interchange has experienced substantial commercial development, and undeveloped land in this area is in high demand, resulting in an immediate need to protect these sensitive wetland areas to provide habitat for native wetland plant, macroinvertebrate and bird species. In addition to protecting wildlife habitat in an expanding commercial zone in the Interstate 271 corridor, this project will also protect the natural stormwater management benefits of the wetlands and provide crucial greenspace access to residents of the Village of Orange and surrounding Cuyahoga County communities through future trail development. This project will also include invasive plant species

management to enhance and protect the native wetland vegetative communities at the site.

WHEREAS, the project is known as “Chagrin River and Tinker’s Creek Headwaters Wetland Protection Project” and is located in County Council District No. 9; and

WHEREAS, the total estimated project cost is \$6,582,500.00, of which \$1,200,000.00 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 the Village of Orange for the conservation of ecologically significant areas in the Chagrin River and Tinker’s Creek Headwaters Wetland Protection in the Village of Orange and known as the “Chagrin River and Tinker’s Creek Headwaters Wetland Protection 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

