

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE INCLUSION OF THE VILLAGE OF RICHFIELD IN THE YELLOW CREEK WATERSHED CONSERVANCY DISTRICT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (AS AMENDED 3-21-2017 AND 4-4-2017)

WHEREAS, the Yellow Creek Foundation has proposed the creation of the Yellow Creek Watershed Conservancy District that would include and impact nine (9) communities, including the Cities of Fairlawn, Akron, and Cuyahoga Falls; the Townships of Copley, Sharon, Granger, Richfield, and Bath; and the Village of Richfield;

WHEREAS, the new Yellow Creek Watershed Conservancy District also proposes a new property tax levy in the amount of 0.3 mills to fund future projects that would advance the purposes of the new conservancy district; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Richfield is within the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) such that its territory, residents and businesses are already subject to the NEORS's Regional Stormwater Management Plan and associated Stormwater Management Program Fees, and the Village does not believe that additional tax levies for similar purposes should be imposed upon residents and businesses within the Village; and

WHEREAS, this Council respectfully requests that the Yellow Creek Foundation exclude the Village of Richfield and its residents from the proposed conservancy district because this Council does not believe that a new conservancy district is necessary and does not support this proposal because it is not in the interests of Village of Richfield residents; and

WHEREAS, recently the Wolf Creek Watershed Conservancy District was created and while it was initially proposed that five (5) communities, including Barberton, Norton, Akron, Fairlawn, and Copley Township would be included in the Wolf Creek Watershed Conservancy, Fairlawn and Akron requested exclusion from the Conservancy which now consists only of the communities that affirmatively wanted to join together to form the Wolf Creek Watershed Conservancy District: namely, Barberton, Norton, and Copley Township;

WHEREAS, the Yellow Creek Watershed Conservancy District should adopt the approach used by the Wolf Creek Watershed Conservancy District and include only communities who affirmatively consent and agree to join the proposed conservancy district and exclude any communities that do not want to be included, particularly if they are already within a professionally managed stormwater management program such as NEORS's program; and

WHEREAS, Summit County is considering the creation of a county-wide stormwater utility that should be considered as a more appropriate approach to intercommunity stormwater issues;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Richfield, Summit County, State of Ohio, that:

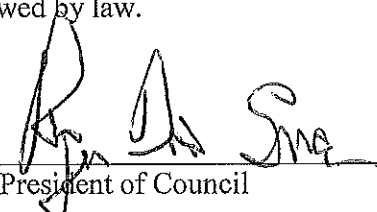
SECTION 1. The Council of the Village of Richfield strongly opposes the inclusion of the Village of Richfield in the Yellow Creek Watershed Conservancy District as well

as any proposed taxes of the Yellow Creek Watershed Conservancy District that would be levied upon properties located in the Village of Richfield.

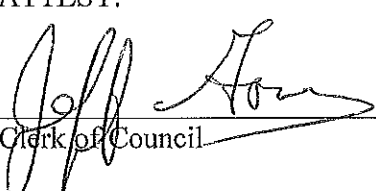
SECTION 2. The Council of the Village of Richfield requests that the Yellow Creek Foundation exclude the Village of Richfield and all of its territory and residents from the proposed conservancy district because Richfield's inclusion in this new conservancy district is unnecessary and not in the best interests of Village of Richfield residents.

SECTION 3. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare and for the further reason that it is necessary to register its opposition to inclusion within the Yellow Creek Watershed Conservancy District at the earliest possible time; wherefore, provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of Council elected or appointed, it shall take effect immediately upon its passage and execution by the Mayor; otherwise, it shall be in full force and effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.


PASSED: 4/4/17



President of Council

ATTEST:


Clerk of Council



Mayor
Dated: 4/4/17