

RESOLUTION NO. 71-2011

Offered by All of Council

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FURNACE RUN  
BALANCED GROWTH PLAN**

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through the Ohio Lake Erie Commission's Balanced Growth Program, has identified the need to enhance protection of the State's waters and Lake Erie by supporting local governments to improve planning for development and conservation; and

WHEREAS, Furnace Run is an important part of the Cuyahoga River and Lake Erie ecosystem, providing storm water management, and important downstream recreational opportunities and wildlife habitat, including Metroparks serving Summit County's Furnace Run Metropark and the Cuyahoga Valley National Park; and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization has organized local government participation in the Furnace Run Watershed Planning Partnership and supported it in developing the Furnace Run Balanced Growth Plan that identifies priority areas for conservation and development; and

WHEREAS, the Furnace Run Watershed Partners and the Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization are to seek endorsement of this Balanced Growth Plan by the Ohio Lake Erie Commission in order to permit the local governments in the watershed to seek the benefits and incentives provided by such endorsement; and

WHEREAS, the Priority Development Areas, Priority Conservation Areas and Priority Agricultural Areas identified in the Furnace Run Balanced Growth Plan are to be used by State of Ohio agencies to guide state activities and programs affecting these areas, and they will serve as the basis for special incentive programs to be directed to the Furnace Run watershed communities; and

WHEREAS, the designation of such areas and access to such benefits will assist the Village of Richfield to minimize future flooding, erosion and water quality problems, threats to infrastructure, and reliance on costly engineered solutions to stormwater problems.

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

SECTION 1. The Village of Richfield supports the Furnace Run Watershed Balanced Growth Plan and the Priority Development Areas, Priority Conservation Areas and Priority Agricultural Areas identified therein, and hereby adopts the Plan.

SECTION 2. The Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization is directed to seek endorsement of this Balanced Growth Watershed plan by the Ohio Lake Erie

Commission in order to permit the local governments in the watershed to seek the benefits and incentives provided by this endorsement.

SECTION 3. The Priority Development Areas, Priority Conservation Areas and Priority Agricultural Areas identified in the Balanced Growth Watershed Plan are to be used by State of Ohio Agencies to guide state activities and programs and they will serve as the basis for special incentives programs to be directed to the Furnace Run watershed and the governmental jurisdictions within it.

SECTION 4. The Village of Richfield will consider changes to Village regulations and policies necessary to implement Priority Areas and to act on the findings of additional natural resource and land use data, all to the maximum extent possible.

SECTION 5. The Village of Richfield will support and work collaboratively with the Furnace Run Watershed Partnership and the Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization.

SECTION 6. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements.

SECTION 7: This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: 12-6-2011

Barbara Barbara  
President of Council

Mark K. Res  
Mayor

Dated: 12/9/2011

ATTEST:

Carolyn E. Sullivan  
Clerk of Council