

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2012-R46  
**SPONSOR:** MAYOR NORTON  
**INTRODUCED:** SEPTEMBER 11, 2012      **ASSIGNED TO:** INTERGOV. & UTIL.

**A RESOLUTION ENDORSING AND SUPPORTING THE SUMMIT FOOD POLICY COALITION'S SUMMIT COUNTY FOOD CHARTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, Summit County is home to an economically vibrant local and regional food industry that permits all residents to obtain and prepare nutritious local food; and

WHEREAS, the Summit Food Policy Coalition is a local organization dedicated to improving healthy food access for all Summit County residents and spurring economic opportunities for existing and beginning farmers; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the Summit Food Policy Coalition and several other local organizations held the Growing Hope Food Summit in Summit County to "create a shared awareness of our local food system and its gaps, launch a movement to increase access to healthy food, explore ways to strengthen the local food economy and connect and begin to empower Summit County residents to act collectively;" and

WHEREAS, to accomplish its mission and the mission of the Growing Hope Food Summit, the Summit Food Policy Coalition has developed a Summit County Food Charter aimed at guiding individual and community actions for the support of a local food and regional food industry; and

WHEREAS, the Summit Food Policy Coalition has asked City Council to endorse and support the Summit County Food Charter in order to spur action among governments, businesses and residents in Summit County to support and grow the local and regional food industry; and

WHEREAS, a healthy and vibrant local and regional food industry is important to the economic health, environmental health and the health of the residents of Summit County and northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, City Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information, that it is necessary and in the best interest of this Council to endorse and support the Summit Food Policy Coalition's Summit County Food Charter.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF GREEN, COUNTY OF SUMMIT, AND STATE OF OHIO THAT:**

**SECTION ONE:**

City Council endorses and supports the Summit Food Policy Coalition's Summit County Food Charter (a copy is attached as Exhibit A) and commits to take all reasonable steps to fulfill the initiatives set forth in the Charter. City Council further authorizes the Mayor to take any steps necessary to more formally endorse the Summit County Food Charter, including, but not limited to, executing the Charter on behalf of the City.

**SECTION TWO:**

The City of Green finds and determines that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in open meetings of this Council and any deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements.

**SECTION THREE:**

Council declares this to be an emergency immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Green. Provided that this legislation receives the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members elected or appointed to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time allowed by law.

ADOPTED: Sept 11, 2012  
Molly Stevens  
Molly Stevens, Clerk

[Signature]  
Joel Reed, Council President

APPROVED: Sept 11, 2012  
[Signature]  
Richard G. Norton, Mayor

COPIED \_\_\_\_\_  
SVCE ZONE PARK ROAD ENG  
LAW FIN MAY PLAN FIRE

ENACTED EFFECTIVE: Sept 11, 2012

ON ROLL CALL: Colopy -yea France -YEA Humphrey -YEA Knodel -YEA  
Neugebauer -YEA Reed -YEA Summerville -YEA Adopted 7-0

Suburbanite publication on Sept 16 and Sept. 23, 2012  
Molly Stevens  
Molly Stevens, Clerk

9/11/12 Approved as to form and content by Stephen J. Pruneski, Law Director [Signature] 9/4/12

## SUMMIT COUNTY COMMUNITY FOOD CHARTER

**VISION:** Summit County is home to an economically vibrant, local and regional food industry and all residents are able to obtain and prepare nutritious food.

**TO THAT END:** As a direct result of the Growing Hope Food Summit and other local research, this document is crafted to guide individual and community actions so that members of the Summit County community can support a local food system by

- Acting in ways that respect and celebrate local food cultures; and
- Understanding that our community's health and well-being benefit from growing, preparing and eating nutritious food; and
- Supporting systems that enable people in all neighborhoods and at every economic level to obtain and afford nutritious, culturally-appropriate food; and
- Educating our children and the larger community how to find, grow, prepare, enjoy and share nutritious foods; and
- Supporting small-scale agriculture, community gardening, food preservation and food production that contribute to self-sufficiency and sustainable living; and
- Spending personal and organizational resources on food grown or prepared locally, thus sustaining our local economy.

**THEREFORE,** this Summit County community supports these initiatives to advance the local food economy:

1. Making available nutritious, affordable food to all residents at a variety of locations that are within reasonable distance by several means of transportation.
2. Actively encouraging growing food for personal use.
3. Providing education on growing, preparing and cooking nutritious food, and encouraging eating nutritious food at home, at work, at school and at places we gather.
4. Supporting regional agriculture as a business by encouraging the distribution, sale, and purchase of locally grown, nutritious food in area markets, grocery stores, restaurants, schools, other institutions and directly from farmers.
5. Developing policies that preserve farm land, enable appropriate use of vacant urban land for agriculture, and permit the raising of animals for food production in appropriate settings.

6. Supporting farming by training new farmers and an agriculture workforce, supporting the sale of existing farms to new farmers, enacting prudent farming regulations, and encouraging best farming practices.
7. Supporting existing local food businesses and new food-related entrepreneurial opportunities through investment, incubators, micro-credit and other financial incentives.