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SUMMIT METRO PARKS PLANS MARCH BALLOT ISSUE

The Summit Metro Parks Board of Park Commissioners has begun the process of submitting to Summit County voters the question of continuing an existing tax levy of 1.46 mills with an additional .54 mills for nine consecutive years. Summit County voters last approved a funding increase for Summit Metro Parks in 2006.

The levy accounts for more than 90 percent of the park district's funding and provides for the maintenance, operation and conservation of Summit Metro Parks properties. Board of Park Commissioners Chair Mark A. Spisak says, "Summit Metro Parks land holdings have grown by more than 50 percent and the park district has added over one million annual visits since the last funding increase 14 years ago. It's time to update our funding to reflect that growth."

Today's action to pursue levy certification from the Summit County Fiscal Office is the first step in a process to update the current levy. The ballot initiative will ask Summit County homeowners to approve an additional \$1.58 per month per \$100,000 home valuation. Collection would begin in tax year 2022 and continue through tax year 2030.

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Summit Metro Parks manages more than 14,000 acres, including 16 parks, several conservation areas and more than 150 miles of trails, with 22.4 miles of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. Annual attendance averages 5 million visits. Visit us online at summitmetroparks.org.



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