

AGENDA
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SUMMIT METRO PARKS
AUGUST 11, 2026

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of July 14, 2026 Previous Board Minutes
4. Executive Director's Reports
5. Items removed from Consent Agenda
6. Consent Agenda Approval of Bills and Resolutions
 - A. Ratification of Bills Paid
 - B. Authorization to Return Advanced Funds
 - C. Authorization to Return Advanced Funds & Budget Adjustment
 - D. Authorization to Award Contract to Sustainable Economies for an Economic Impact Study
 - E. Authorization to Purchase Material to Resurface Sections of the Towpath Trail
 - F. Authorization to Contract Paving at Goodyear Metro Park
 - G. Authorization to Purchase Material to Repair a Towpath Trail Bridge
 - H. Authorization to Contract Concrete Work for Sand Run Material Storage Bins
 - I. Rejection of Bid for Restroom Replacements and Authorization to Rebid
7. Unfinished/Old Business & New Business
8. Correspondence & Public Portion
9. Future Board Meeting Dates/Adjourn

August 11, 2026

Minutes of Proceedings
Of
The Board of Park Commissioners
Of
Summit Metro Parks

The Board of Park Commissioners of Summit Metro Parks met on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 11:30 A.M., at the F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm, 1828 Smith Rd., Akron, OH 44313.

ITEM 1: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was opened by Herbert Newman, Chair, with the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ITEM 2: ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Herbert Newman, Chair, Joel D. Bailey, First Vice-Chair, Jill M. Stritch, Second Vice-Chair, S. Theresa Carter, Member, and Lisa M. King, Executive Director. Also in attendance were Dee Falconer, Lindsay Smith, Aaron Hockman, Mark Szeremet, Josh Hamblen, Dale Fobean, Jen Harvey, Jordan Collins, Ellie Pildner, Wes Krigbaum, Mike Klein, Becca Ritterspach, David Richards, and Martin Rogers.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF JULY 14, 2026 PREVIOUS BOARD MINUTES

Resolution 80.2026

Following discussion, it was moved by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Ms. Stritch, that the minutes of the July 14, 2026, board meeting were approved. The previous minutes were emailed for the Commissioners' review.

The vote being:	Herbert Newman	Aye
	Joel D. Bailey	Aye
	Jill M. Stritch	Aye
	Rev. Dr. Curtis T. Walker Sr.	Absent
	S. Theresa Carter	Aye

ITEM 4: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

The Executive Director's reports were reviewed and discussed. Copies of these reports are attached at the end of the minutes.

ITEM 5: ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

- None

ITEM 6: CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 81.2026

Following discussion, it was moved by Ms. Carter, seconded by Ms. Stritch, that the consent agenda items of the Board of Park Commissioners were approved. All supporting documents are at the end of this report.

The vote being:

Herbert Newman

Joel D. Bailey

Jill M. Stritch

Rev. Dr. Curtis T. Walker Sr.

S. Theresa Carter

Aye

Abstain

Aye

Absent

Aye

A. RATIFICATION OF BILLS PAID

OPERS	July 2026	\$222,632.13
Medicare	July 2026	\$21,645.48
Interim Bills	July, 2026	\$1,320,379.99
Payroll	July 2, 2026	\$505,038.43
Payroll	July 17, 2026	\$509,718.22
Payroll	July 31, 2026	\$503,952.04
TOTAL	BALANCE	\$3,083,366.29

Resolution 82.2026

The action of the Executive Director in paying the above bills was hereby ratified.

B. AUTHORIZATION TO RETURN ADVANCED FUNDS

The Executive Director requested authorization to return advanced funds from a federal fund back into the general fund. The designation of the return of advance is as follows:

Federal Fund – USDA Fund

Return of Advance 90139090-9090000012-599901 Advances Out +3,223.76

Return of 90139090-9090000012-599901 Cash Advance out of Federal Fund 3,223.76 Debit
Cash Advance 90119010-499901 Cash Advance into General Fund 3,223.76 Credit

Resolution 83.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to return advanced funds from a federal fund back into the general fund.

C. AUTHORIZATION TO RETURN ADVANCED FUNDS & BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

The Executive Director requested authorization to return advanced funds and adjust the budget from a federal fund back into the general fund. The designation of the return of advance and budget adjustment is as follows:

Federal Fund – USDOT Fund

Return of Advance 90139090-9090000017-599901 Advances Out +700,000

Return of 90139090-9090000017-599901 Cash Advance out of Federal Fund 700,000 Debit
Cash Advance 90119010-499901 Cash Advance into General Fund 700,000 Credit

Budget 90139090-9090000017-532160-MP0915 Budget Adjustment 700,000 Credit
90119010-9010000002-532160 Budget Adjustment 700,000 Debit

Resolution 84.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to return advanced funds and adjust the budget from a federal fund back into the general fund.

D. AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD CONTRACT TO SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIES FOR AN ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

Looking ahead to the park district's 2029 levy, the Executive Director wishes to update the district's 2013 economic impact study. Discussions about a new study and the benefits of an updated report occurred during the recent strategic planning work. The update will include an additional focus on our conservation impacts on the county-wide ecosystem. Having updated values that reflect today's true economic impact is beneficial to have for speaking engagements and will also support our next levy effort.

Two consultants were approached about the project and only one provided a quote, Sustainable Economies. Having a positive experience with this consultant, they were chosen based on their comprehensive proposal and experience providing this product to other similar agencies. The contract will begin this year with completion planned for mid-2027. Only a portion of their proposal will come from this year's budget with the remainder coming from next year's budget.

The Executive Director requested authorization to sign a contract with Sustainable Economies to conduct an economic impact study for the amount not to exceed \$44,000.00.

Resolution 85.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to sign a contract with Sustainable Economies to conduct an economic impact study for the amount not to exceed \$44,000.00.

E. AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE MATERIAL TO RESURFACE SECTIONS OF THE TOWPATH TRAIL

Park staff will resurface a 3.3-mile section of the Towpath Trail between Clinton and Snyder Road with limestone to address its deteriorating condition. Only one vendor was able to quote the specific material and quantities required for this project.

Summary of quotes:

National Lime & Stone Company	\$39,472.90
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The Executive Director requested authorization to purchase materials from National Lime & Stone Company, for the quoted amount of \$39,472.90 and requests an additional 10% contingency, at a cost not to exceed \$43,420.19

Resolution 86.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to purchase materials from National Lime & Stone Company, for the quoted amount of \$39,472.90 and the additional 10% contingency, at a cost not to exceed \$43,420.19.

F. AUTHORIZATION TO CONTRACT PAVING AT GOODYEAR METRO PARK

The Eastwood lot entrance and parking area require repaving due to poor surface conditions. Competitive quotes have been received for the complete project, including milling, full-depth asphalt repairs, ADA concrete updates, and new line painting.

Summary of quotes:

Cardinal Cement & Excavating, Inc.	\$71,300.00
Perrin Asphalt and Concrete	\$75,480.00

The Executive Director requested authorization to contract Cardinal Cement & Excavating, Inc., for the quoted amount of \$71,300.00 and an additional 5% contingency, at a cost not to exceed \$74,865.00.

Resolution 87.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to contract Cardinal Cement & Excavating, Inc. for the quoted amount of \$71,300.00 and an additional 5% contingency, at a cost not to exceed \$74,865.00.

G. AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE MATERIAL TO REPAIR A TOWPATH TRAIL BRIDGE

A 556-foot bridge on the Towpath Trail between Snyder Road and Eastern Road needs repaired due to its deteriorating condition. Park staff will repair approximately 326 feet this fall/winter, with the remaining 230 feet in 2027. This bridge was originally built in 2010. Quotes for material were received.

Summary of quotes:

Terry Lumber & Supply Co.	\$33,601.80
Keim	\$37,479.73

The Executive Director requested authorization to purchase material from Terry Lumber & Supply Co., for the quoted amount of \$33,601.80 and requested an additional 10% contingency, at a cost not to exceed \$36,961.98.

Resolution 88.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to purchase material from Terry Lumber & Supply Co., for the quoted amount of \$33,601.80 and requested an additional 10% contingency, at a cost not to exceed \$36,961.98.

H. AUTHORIZATION TO CONTRACT CONCRETE WORK FOR SAND RUN MATERIAL STORAGE BINS

The material storage bins at Sand Run need replacement due to their deteriorating condition. To provide a stable foundation for the new structure, a 6-inch concrete pad with footers must be installed prior to construction by park staff. Quotes for contracting this work were received.

Summary of quotes:

Cardinal Cement & Excavating, Inc.	\$25,576.00
Perrin Asphalt and Concrete	\$28,500.00

The Executive Director requested authorization to enter into a contract with Cardinal Cement & Excavating, Inc. to pour a concrete pad and footer, at Sand Run Field Office, for the quoted amount of \$25,576.00 and request an additional 10% contingency, at a cost not to exceed \$28,133.60.

Resolution 89.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to enter into a contract with Cardinal Cement & Excavating, Inc., to pour a concrete footer and pad at Sand Run Field Office, for the quoted amount of \$25,576.00 and request an additional 10% contingency, at a cost not to exceed \$28,133.60.

I. REJECTION OF BID FOR RESTROOM REPLACEMENTS AND AUTHORIZATION TO REBID

Planning staff received bids on July 28, 2026, for restroom replacements at O’Neil Woods and Sand Run Metro Parks. One bid was received by Cavanaugh Building Corporation for \$648,888. The bid exceeds the estimate for the project which is \$472,368. The Executive Director requests authorization to reject the bid. Planning staff will reassess the project scope and budget and rebid the project as soon as practical.

The Executive Director requested authorization to reject the bid received for restroom replacements at O’Neil Woods and Sand Run Metro Parks and to re-bid the project later in 2026.

Resolution 90.2026

The Executive Director was authorized to reject the bid received for restroom replacements at O’Neil Woods and Sand Run Metro Parks and to re-bid the project later in 2026.

ITEM 7: UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- None

ITEM 8: CORRESPONDENCE

- Destiny Church, Rev. Dr. Calvin Lamar Brown, Sr.
Parcel #6407773



July 29, 2026

Board of Park Commissioners
Summit Metro Parks
975 Treaty Line Road
Akron, Ohio 44313

Dear Commissioners,

I trust this letter finds you well.

Our church is interested in purchasing Parcel #6407773 located on Ravenna Road in Twinsburg, which is adjacent to our property. After speaking with Mark Szeremet, I was directed to send your board a letter expressing our interest in the property, in order to begin a formal inquiry. It was suggested that I send a similar letter to Lisa King, which I have done.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter. Please let me know how to proceed.

Kind regards,

Rev. Dr. Calvin Lamar Brown, Sr.
~~Co-pastor~~

9550 Ravenna Road, Twinsburg, Ohio 44087 330.405.1993 www.destinyweb.org

PUBLIC PORTION

- David Richards,
Bike & Hike Trails - Bikers
- Martin Rogers,
Towpath Trail - Bikers

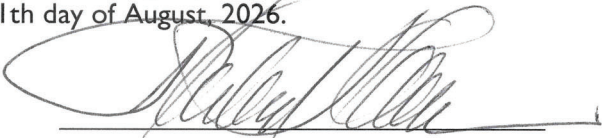
ITEM 9: EXECUTIVE SESSION: O.R.C. §121.22, (G) (1), (G) (2), (G) (3) AND (G) (4)

- None

ITEM 10: FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES

Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. – F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm (*Foundation*)
Tuesday, October 13, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. – F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm
Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. – F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm (*Foundation*)
Tuesday, December 8, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. – F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm

There being no further business to transact, the meeting adjourned IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand, this 11th day of August, 2026.


Herbert Newman, Chair


Lisa M. King, Executive Director

True copies emailed to all Commissioners on August 14, 2026.

ITEM 4: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORTS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

	North Region	Central Region	South Region	Administrative Office
Public Programs	22	26	33	
Outreach Programs	8	9	9	
Program Attendance	736	889	890	
Phone Calls	73	151	82	1757
Building Visitation	2266	4372	1151	131

North Region:

- July at LPNC was highlighted by numerous summer camp visits and a successful concert featuring the Cuyahoga Valley Concert Band. Despite heavy rain until just ten minutes before the performance, staff quickly pivoted the event from the amphitheater to the shelter, welcoming 75 guests for an enjoyable evening of music. Looking ahead to August, the staff from LPNC will facilitate eight outreach programs and visits, as well as our first yoga class in many years at the nature center, led by our colleague, retired Cuyahoga Valley National Park naturalist Pam Machuga.



Central Region:

- During July, we welcomed hundreds of children from day camps around Summit County. UMADAOP (Urban Minority Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program), First Glance of Kenmore, Twinsburg Parks and Recreation, and Cleveland Clinic Health and Wellness Day camp all enjoyed animal ambassador programs, hikes and scavenger hunts at the Nature Realm. Naturalists also provided outreach to Cuyahoga Falls Library and the Shaw JCC day camp.

South Region:

- July 1, 2026, marked five years since the opening of the Summit Lake Nature Center. We celebrated our five-year anniversary with an open house featuring free fishing, Hoverball archery, games, crafts, and food from a local Summit Lake restaurant, Mi Reina Boriqua. On July 11, at the new North Shore Park in Akron, visitors enjoyed free kayaking, canoeing, pontoon boat rides, and root beer floats at the Summit Lake Float event that we hosted in collaboration with Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition.

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

- **Bridge Replacement and Bat Conservation**
Conservation staff continue to collaborate with the City of Twinsburg, the Summit County Engineer, the Ohio Department of Transportation, the University of Cincinnati, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the planned replacement of the Glennwood Drive Bridge over Tinkers Creek in Twinsburg. The bridge is currently scheduled for replacement in 2027 or 2028.

Since 2005, Summit Metro Parks has monitored a maternity colony of endangered bats that uses the bridge. Current efforts are focused on better understanding the bridge characteristics that make it suitable for maternity colonization and identifying strategies to minimize impacts to the colony during and after the bridge replacement. Recently, data loggers were installed in spaces under the bridge to monitor temperature and humidity in areas where bats are noted to mass.



- **NAGPRA Repatriation Efforts**
Four Tribal Nations are partnering with Summit Metro Parks as part of the NAGPRA process for the Everett Knoll Site. The Wyandotte, Shawnee, Peoria Tribe, and Prairie Band Potawatomi are actively engaged in the effort to repatriate previously excavated human remains, funerary objects, and sacred objects remaining in the park's collection from past archaeological investigations.
- **Conservation and Operations Collaboration**
The Conservation and Operations Department hosted three meetings to strengthen collaboration between conservation and operational staff. Conservation staff provided an in-depth overview of the science behind the park's land use guidelines, followed by discussions on how to effectively implement and refine those guidelines for field operations.

HUMAN RESOURCES

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES:

- 15 Years of Service: Park Manager II – Firestone Jon Schoblocher, Park Biologist Ramsey Langford
- 5 Years of Service: Community Engagement Coordinator Sarah Deisler, Community Engagement Specialist Sofia Mally

PROMOTIONS:

- Tucker Cavanaugh to Park Biologist
- Corey Packard to Park Manager I – Furnace Run
- Ryan Smas to PTYR Park Technician

NEW HIRES:

- Thomas Bullock as Park Technician I

SEASONALS:

We have begun posting seasonal positions for Operations and Community Engagement departments for the 2026 fall/winter seasons.

POSTINGS:

- 07/14/26 Seasonal Conservation/Maintenance
 Seasonal Naturalist
 PTYR Park Biologist
 Police Sergeant
- 07/21/26 Assistant Park Manager
 PTYR Interpretive Naturalist
 Seasonal Maintenance
- 07/28/26 Interpretive Naturalist
 Maintenance Utility Technician
 Park Technician III

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM UPDATES:

- **Reoccurring Volunteer Engagement** | In July 2026, 121 reoccurring volunteers reported 1,061 hours for an average of 9 hours and 4 shifts per volunteer. Volunteers participated in 29 assignments across eight departments.
- **Episodic Volunteer Engagement** | Within July, 36 episodic volunteers contributed 78 hours assisting with the native bed care at the Valley View Area of Cascade Valley Metro Park and Liberty Park Nature Center. Employees from First Energy and CAPTRUST assisted in trash cleanups along the Freedom Trail.
- **Group Interest** | Since the start of the new year, 70 requests have been submitted by corporate or youth groups looking for service opportunities this spring. So far, 22 groups have a confirmed project.
- **Burning River Race** | The volunteer department partnered Western Reserve Racing to support the Burning River Race on July 25 by managing an aid station at Chestnut Lodge. Beginning at 4 a.m., six volunteers prepped and handed out snacks, filled bottles with hydration and of course cheered on racers. Racers expressed great appreciation and admiration of the volunteers and Summit Metro Parks trails.



MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

- **This August**, the Marketing & Communications department is focused on:
 - Planning and preparations for several fall events, especially the 63rd Annual Fall Hiking Spree, which will feature trailside interpretive signs that expand upon this year’s theme of “The Living Landscape.” The 2026 shield design is pictured (right) and features Ohio’s native gray fox to represent conservation initiatives in SMP.



- **Media coverage in July** included significant coverage on the police chase that ended with the suspect hitting an SMP police cruiser in Stow (covered in Yahoo news, Cleveland.com, Akron Beacon Journal, WKRC-TV, WOIO, Cincinnati Enquirer, and other national outlets including CBS evening news). Additional coverage included the new CUYAC river safety tool (WEWS 5), summer fun activities (Northeast Ohio Parent magazine), bald eaglet rescue at Nimisila (WOIO 19), SMP police assistance on

search and recovery at Portage Lakes (Cleveland.com), Touch-a-Truck event (WCPN-FM), new Slipper Run Conservation Area in Peninsula (Akron Beacon Journal, WAKR-AM, WCPN-FM), Sand Run Pkwy closure alert (MSN.com).

- Marketing staff held a **successful Touch-a-Truck event on August 1** at Munroe Falls Metro Park, hosting more than 1,000 visitors. We are also planning a large public **Sturgeon Celebration at the Valley View Area of Cascade Valley Metro Park on September 19** to support Ohio Division of Wildlife’s sturgeon reintroduction effort in our region. On August 1, registration opened for the public to sign up to release a young sturgeon fish into the Cuyahoga as part of the celebration event.
- **Maple Leaf Gifts** welcomed 1,456 visitors and processed more than \$6,200 in sales in July. Best-selling items were stickers and magnets, jewelry and nature-themed toys.
- Marketing staff attended seven **internal and external community events** in July, serving more than 800 people (and thousands more at the Stow Fourth of July parade that couldn’t be tallied), including:

Date	Event	Location	Contacts
7/4/26	Stow Fourth of July Parade	Stow	Thousands!
7/7/26	Music by the Lake	Munroe Falls Metro Park	304
7/9/26	ASCPL Touch a Truck	Portage Lakes Branch Library	132
7/14/26	Music by the Lake	Silver Creek Metro Park	120
7/15/26	AMHA Touch a Truck	Barberton Homes	125
7/21/26	Music in the Park	Sand Run – Treaty Line Area	75
7/22/26	AMHA Touch a Truck	Honey Locust Gardens Apts.	75
Total			800+

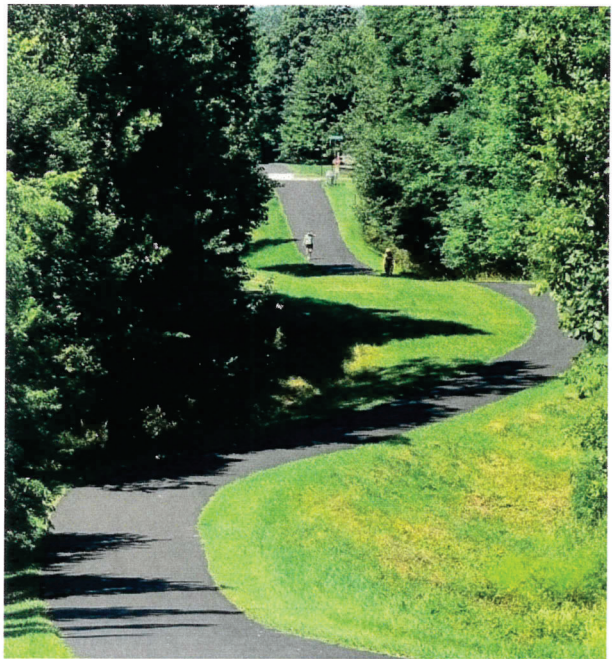
OPERATIONS

- **Trail Repairs & Improvements:** We are completing Downy Loop Trail improvements this month in preparation for the Fall Hiking Spree. We also initiated a 300-foot boardwalk replacement on Redwing Trail and installed two memorial benches on the John Brown path at the Akron Zoo. Staff are preparing to repair southern Towpath Trail bridge approaches, resurface 3.3 miles of the Towpath Trail, and replace boardwalks on both Alder Trail (130') and the Nature Realm Visitors Center walkway. We’re currently evaluating quotes for lumber replacement on a 556-foot bridge along the southern Towpath Trail.
- **Lodge Improvements & Repairs:** We are replacing the HVAC system at Coventry Oaks Lodge and finalizing construction of a new service drive to enhance delivery access for Himelright Lodge renters.
- **Shelter Repairs:** We completed roof replacements at the Sherman, White Spar, and Mountain Bike Trail shelters. Structural post replacements are scheduled at all three Munroe Falls Lake Area shelters for this fall.
- **Asphalt preservation program:** We’re concluding district-wide crack sealing and repairs and shifting to repainting long lines, parking lot lines, and ADA spaces as well as evaluating quotes to repave the Goodyear Eastwood Area parking lot and restroom walkway.
- **Community Events:** Staff hosted the annual Touch-a-Truck event on August 1 at Munroe Falls, welcoming over 1,000 participants.
- **Seasonal Facility Hours:** **Nimisila Campground Office** remains open Fridays and Saturdays (10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) through September 5. **Silver Creek Boat House** remains open weekends and holidays (10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.) through August 16.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Construction:

- **Central Maintenance Facility – Main Building:** Construction is on-going with the roof, interior finishes and electrical/mechanical utilities being installed; site work concrete drives began. Anticipated completion in Fall.
- **Freedom Trail – Phase 4a:** Trail work has started up again in downtown Akron. We are wrapping up lights for completed trail on University Avenue bridge. Project is to be completed in the Fall.
- **Paving Projects:** Bike & Hike Trail paving of the SR 303 parking lot driveway and the Stow Bike Way have been repaired and re-paved. Projects are completed.
- **Nature Realm – Open Shelter Area:** We're waiting on First Energy for electricity to the site and working on finishing details of the picnic tables, signage and extra landscaping. The shelter has been erected and concrete paving installed with anticipated completion this summer.
- **Sand Run Parkway Paving Project (Ford to Revere Road):** Closed for paving and replacement of eight culverts until mid-September, with anticipated completion in September for the Akron Marathon.
- **Summit Lake Perennial Garden (Teardrop):** Construction documents have been prepared and currently working with the operations department to get prices to complete upgrading soil, paving and planting. Anticipated completion in November.



Design/Engineering:

- **Valley View Bridges:** Design development submittal is in review and permitting for the project is awaiting approval. Future Towpath re-route discussions are underway with partners.
- **District Wide Restroom Replacement (O'Neil Woods/Old Portage Area):** Pavement re-design is with a consultant for late summer bidding.
- **Silver Creek Play Area:** Preliminary design is underway with Midstates. An internal meeting was held to present our design and updating design to incorporate ideas. We're finalizing the design to begin construction drawings.
- **Munroe Falls Freedom Trail Connector:** Conservation is completing a wetlands update to culvert near road, bid in Fall for 2027.

Planning:

- **Silver Creek Bridle Trail Reroute:** We're evaluating/negotiating proposal fees from consultant to prepare the Bridle/Miner's Trail reroute across the Medina Line Road bridge.
- **Silver Creek Lakehouse:** Staff reviewed qualifications and asked the consultant for a cost proposal.
- **Highbridge Trail - Structure Study (ravine crossing):** We received the draft report and are reviewing comments on options and associated cost. It's TBD whether we keep or remove the bridge structure.
- **Gorge Metro Park Masterplan:** We're looking into future development of trails and restoration.
- **Twin Creeks Metro Park Masterplan:** Setting priorities and working with other departments for consensus on future development.

- **Central Maintenance Facility - Puzzle Building:** A consultant (Bowen) was hired; carpentry, police, and regional managers will be eventual occupants. Meetings and preliminary layouts have started.
- **District Wide Restroom Replacement (Goodyear – Pioneer Area/Sand Run – Big Bend):** Planning and construction documents are with a consultant for future construction.
- **Summit County Trail & Greenway Plan:** We are in the process of updating the plan which identifies trails and greenways in Summit County. Meetings with municipalities and trail grant agencies to get feedback are on-going.
- **ADA Transition Plan:** The planning department is working to identify and prioritize ADA projects across the park district. We are currently working on a GIS/database system that will help us keep track with progress, location and type of project. With the help of our operations department, we are revamping our current kiosks to be ADA accessible across all parks. Current construction/design/planning projects also are integrating ADA projects within the scope.
- **Tree Risk Assessment Tool:** This is an interactive map with tasks to help with tree risks across the park district. It will keep track of trees to watch, what has been done and work record keeping. We're currently running a trial run to test the tool.

GRANT ACTIVITY		
Grants-Pending: (Application made, awaiting word)		
Clean Ohio Trail Fund	Sagamore Connector Trail	\$ 250,000
		\$ 250,000
Total		
Grants-Awarded:		
O&ECC - Summit County Community Grant	Engineering/Design of Silver Creek Trail	\$ 10,000
Clean Ohio Conservation Fund	Slipper Run Conservation Area	\$ 1,730,000
Ohio & Erie Canalway Association	Big Bend Trailhead Upgrades	\$ 20,000
Summit County Community Grant	Western Access to Cuyahoga Valley	\$ 10,000
Ohio & Erie Canalway Association	Sagamore Hills Trail Engineering and Design	\$ 20,000
Clean Ohio Trail Fund	Freedom Trail Phase 4	\$ 500,000
O&ECC - Summit County Community Grant	Freedom Trail Phase 4 Engineering and Design	\$ 5,000
Total		\$ 2,295,000

POLICE DEPARTMENT

	Total
Incident Reports	41
Foot Patrol	591 Hours
Visitor Contacts	3,097

- On July 3, Officers Kelly Brown, Joe Gonser, and Spencer Forshey assisted Hudson Police Department with crowd and traffic control for their annual city firework display for the Fourth of July holiday. The Wood Hollow Metro Park parking lot served as one of the many parking lots needed for the event.
- On the evening of July 7, Summit Metro Parks police assisted local and state law enforcement partners during a rapidly evolving incident involving a violent felony suspect who entered Summit County following an alleged attempted homicide in Stark County. The suspect fled from law enforcement in a vehicle and ultimately struck one of our marked patrol vehicles at a high speed. Seconds before the collision, the Summit Metro Parks police officer exited the patrol vehicle. Thanks to the professionalism, training and quick actions of the involved officer, they were unharmed. Our thoughts are with the victim of the underlying violent crime and their loved ones.
- On July 15, at approximately 8:00 a.m., a resident in the 3300 block of South Main Street contacted the Summit County Sheriff's Office regarding a partially sunken boat in the East Reservoir of the Portage Lakes. Deputies identified the owner of the boat as a 55-year-old male from Copley. His truck and trailer were located in the Old State Park parking lot. The Ohio Division of Natural Resources, Summit Metro Parks, and multiple local fire departments responded to the scene. A search for the missing man was conducted in the surrounding area. Drones and sonar units were utilized in the search. The male's body was subsequently located and recovered in the Reservoir. The incident is under investigation by the Summit County Sheriff's Office and the Summit County Medical Examiner's Office. Our thoughts are with the man's family, friends, and loved ones during this difficult time.

- On July 24, Lieutenant Deem, Officer Bill Kelly, Regional Manager Dave Kamps, and Manager Frank Prater provided assistance to both park staff and the public during the Community Shredding Event at Goodyear Heights Metro Park.
- On July 25-26, Chief Hamblen and Officers John Desrosiers, Tyler Fabian, Travis Hiegel, Bill Kelly, and Kelsey Keys provided support and safety for the 20th anniversary of the Burning River Endurance Run & Relay. The race travels through the majority of Summit Metro Parks and Cuyahoga Valley National Park.
- On July 25, Officer Joe Gonser attended the Summit Mall Touch-A-Truck event. Touch-A-Truck provides first responders an opportunity to build trust with the community and inspire future generations.

TRAINING

- OPOTA Virtual Reality Instructor
When: June 17-18, 2026
Attendees: Officer Kathy Kwasnik and Spencer Forshey
- OPOTA Shotgun Instructor
When: July 27-29, 2026
Attendees: Officer Travis Hiegel and Rob Tanner
- OPOTA Field Training Officer (FTO) Program
When: August 4-6, 2026
Attendees: Officer Bill Kelly and Rob Tanner

2026 MONTHLY WORK FORCE REPORT, SUMMIT METRO PARKS

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Full Time Employees, Job Positions													
Accounting/Payroll Manager (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Accounting/Payroll Specialist (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Administrative Office Mgr/Executive Asst. (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Assistant Park Manager (2)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Assistant Purchasing Manager (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Brand Manager (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Carpenter (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Chief of Community Engagement (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Chief of Conservation (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Chief of Finance (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Chief of Human Resources & Admin (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Chief of Marketing & Communications (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Chief of Operations (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Chief of Planning (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Chief of Philanthropy (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Chief of Police (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Civil Engineer/Construction Supervisor (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Community Engagement Coordinator (3)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3						
Community Engagement Manager (3)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3						
Community Engagement Specialists (2)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2						
Crew Leader I (9)	9	9	9	9	9	9	9						
Crew Leader II (3)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3						
Cultural Resource Specialist (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Customer Service Rep (2)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2						
Donor Relations Coordinator (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Donor Relations Specialist (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Executive Director (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Events Specialist (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Fleet Manager (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Forestry Crew Leader (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Forestry Technician (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Graphic Designer (2)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2						
Horticulturalist (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Human Resources Coordinator (1)	0	0	1	1	1	1	1						
Human Resources Manager (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Illustrative Artist (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Illustrative Naturalist (6)	6	6	6	6	6	6	6						
Land Compliance Project Manager (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Landscape Architect (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						

Lead Mechanic (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Lead Naturalist (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Maintenance/Utility Technician (2)	2	2	2	2	2	2	1						
Manager Volunteer Programs (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Marketing Assistant (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Marketing & Public Relations Manager (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Marketing Specialist (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Mechanic (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Mechanic - Small Engine (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Natural Resources Project Manager (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Operations Project Manager (2)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2						
Operations Service Manager (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Park Biologist (3)	3	3	3	3	2	2	3						
Park Manager I (3)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3						
Park Manager II (8)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8						
Park Planner (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Park Technician I (36)	36	36	37	36	35	35	36						
Park Technician II (1)	0	0	0	0	1	1	1						
Park Technician III (5)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4						
Planning & Development Project Manager (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Police Captain (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Police Lieutenant (1)	0	0	0	0	1	1	1						
Police Officer (20)	18	18	18	18	18	18	18						
Police Sergeant (3)	2	2	2	2	1	1	1						
Purchasing Manager (1)	2	2	1	1	1	1	1						
Regional Manager (2)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2						
Sales Supervisor (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Supervisor of Cultural Resources (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Supervisor of Ecological Resources (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Supervisor of Wildlife Resources (1)	0	0	0	0	1	1	1						
Trail Crew Leader (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Trail Technician (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Utility Technician (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Volunteer Coordinator (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Total Full-Time Hired	162	162	163	162	162	162	162						
Total FT Authorized	170	170	170	170	170	170	170						
Part-Time, Year Round Employees													
Accounting Specialist (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Civil Engineer/Construction Supervisor (1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Cultural Resource Specialist (1)	0	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Community Engagement Specialist (6)	5	6	6	6	6	6	6						
Customer Service Rep (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Interpretive Naturalist (6)	6	6	6	4	6	6	5						
Outreach Program Assistant (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Park Technician (11)	11	10	9	9	11	11	10						
Park Biologist (3)	3	3	3	3	3	3	2						
Sales Assistant (2)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2						
Watershed Resource Specialist (1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
Total Part-Time, Year-Round Hired	31	32	31	29	33	33	30						
Total PT, YR Authorized	34	34	34	34	34	34	34						
Seasonal Employees													
Community Engagement	0	0	0	0	3	4	4						
Conservation	5	4	5	7	12	10	10						
Operations	5	3	4	5	30	38	37						
Total Seasonal Hired	10	7	9	12	45	52	51						
Total Seasonal Authorized	104	104	104	104	104	104	104						
Casual Employees													
Ranger (5)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Visitor Engagement Specialists (0)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Total Casual Hired	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Total Casual Authorized	5	5	5	5	5	5	5						
Intern Employees													
Total Interns Hired	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Total Interns Authorized (9)	9	9	9	9	9	9	9						
Grand Total Hired Employees	203	201	203	203	240	247	243						
Grand Total Employees Authorized	322	322	322	322	322	322	322						

Summit Metro Parks

July 31, 2026

I certify approval for payment of the vouchers listed:

Vendor	Description	Amount
ADMAR OHIO LLC	Equipment Supplies	150.37
ADOBE INC	Software Subscriptions	12,497.88
AIRGAS USA LLC	Maintenance Materials	158.15
AKRON BEARING COMPANY	Equipment Supplies	161.40
AKRON GLASS TINTING	Nature Realm Windows	2,000.00
AKRON LITHO PRINT COMPANY INC	Printing Services	842.00
AKRON SAFETY LITE & EQUIPMENT CO INC	Maintenance Materials	447.00
AKRON TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT INC	Equipment Supplies	3,997.53
AKRON UNIFORMS	Uniforms	8,100.51
ALCO CHEM INC	Cleaning & Sanitary Supplies	2,631.56
ALL TOWN & COUNTRY SEPTIC TANK SERVICE INC	Septic Service	7,255.00
AMERICAN PRINTING INC	Green Islands Printing	8,448.00
APEX ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO INC	Maintenance Supplies	44.05
ASSUREDPARTNERS CAPITAL INC	Liability Insurance	127.00
AUTOMOTIVE IGNITION COMPANY	Vehicle Supplies	376.70
BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION BUREAU LLC	Background Checks	74.95
BAIR'S INC	Vehicle Supplies	521.14
BAKER VEHICLE SYSTEMS INC	Vehicle Supplies	285.54
BARBERTON TREE SERVICE	Tree Trimming & Removal Service	4,600.00
BASIC BENEFITS LLC	COBRA & FSA Administration	318.58
BEDFORD CONCERT BAND	Naturalist Program	300.00
BELL TRUCKING INC	Fuel Tank Installation	22,000.00
BG ENGINEERING GROUP LLC	Boundary Survey	10,500.00
BLD DOOR SERVICES LLC	Garage Door Repairs	615.00
BUCKEYE UNIFORMS INC	Uniforms	75.00
BUCKINGHAM DOOLITTLE & BURROUGHS	Legal Services	5,881.00
CAR PARTS WAREHOUSE INC	Vehicle Supplies	513.78
CITY OF AKRON	Real Estate Assessments	27,623.61
CITY OF AKRON	Water Service	4,019.31
CITY OF BARBERTON	Water Service	116.15
CITY OF CLEVELAND	Water Service	219.91
CITY OF CUYAHOGA FALLS	Water & Electric Service	355.78
CITY OF HUDSON	Electric Service	14.80
CITY OF MUNROE FALLS	Water Service	566.50
CITY OF STOW	Water Service	33.43
CJ DANNEMILLER CO INC	Naturalist Program Supplies	11.00
CLEVELAND VICON CO INC	Maintenance Materials	2,789.00
COLIN BAKER	Advertising	2,863.00
COMDOC INC	Copier Service Contract	82.98
COMPRODUCTS INC	Maintenance Supplies	160.81
COPLEY FEED & SUPPLY	Maintenance Supplies	359.96
CRANDALL CO INC	Vehicle Supplies	391.85
DELL MARKETING LP	Computer	1,024.39
DGL CONSULTING ENGINEERS LLC	Design Services	1,290.00
DLZ OHIO INC	Topographic Survey	4,500.00
DWA RECREATION INC	Nature Realm Shelter	23,250.00
EAST OHIO GAS COMPANY	Gas Service	825.50
ENTERPRISE FM TRUST	Vehicle Lease	45,986.54
ENVIRONMENTAL ENVIRONMENT TESTING AMERICA HOLDING INC	Water Testing	66.00
EVANS MECHWART HAMBLETON & TILTON INC	Bridge Design and Permitting	7,478.47
E-VOLVE CREATIVE GROUP LLC	Website Services	7,200.00

FALLSWAY EQUIPMENT CO INC	Vehicle Supplies	290.12
FALLSWAY EQUIPMENT CO INC	Patrol Vehicle Upfits	21,726.78
FAMOUS DISTRIBUTION INC	Maintenance Materials	26.23
FALLSWAY AUTO PARTS INC	Vehicle Supplies	580.79
FALLSWAY SAND & GRAVEL INC	Maintenance Materials	272.10
FRED W ALBRECHT GROCERY COMPANY	Maintenance & Program Supplies	504.60
GANNETT MEDIA CORP	Legal Ads	296.36
GATEWAY PRODUCTS RECYCLING INC	Shredding Service	125.12
GD SUPPLY INC	Maintenance Materials	356.50
GEMPLERS INC	Maintenance Materials	278.31
GENUINE PARTS COMPANY	Vehicle & Equipment Supplies	379.23
GLAUS PYLE SCHOMER BURNS & DEHAVEN INC	Restroom Replacement Design Services	11,635.68
GOLD CREST DISTRIBUTING LLC	Gift Shop Items	682.09
GOOSE DOCTORS LLC	Wildlife Management	650.00
GVS SAFETY SUPPLIES INC	Maintenance Materials	758.80
HELIOS HR LLC	Employee Engagement Survey	6,250.00
HERSHBERGER ROOFING AND CONST LLC	Silver Creek Shelter Roof Replacement	15,253.28
HFT MANAGEMENT INC	Metro RTA Advertisements	4,930.00
IDEASTREAM	Advertising	4,232.00
INDEPENDENCE OFFICE AND BUSINESS SUPPLY CO INC	Office Supplies	1,102.40
JAMES N HIRSH INC	Office Supplies	44.12
JJ KELLER & ASSOCIATES INC	Office Supplies	339.00
JOHN J HEMMINGER CONSTRUCTION CO INC	Maintenance Facility Construction	536,670.00
JONES, SERENA	Wedding Suite Refund	250.00
JWS WHOLESALE BAIT LLC	Naturalist Program Supplies	60.00
KASTNER WESTMAN & WILKINS LLC	Legal Services	725.00
KEIM CO	Maintenance Materials	7,364.26
KG NORTON LLC	Vehicle Supplies	17.71
KIESLER POLICE SUPPLY INC	Law Enforcement Supplies	400.41
KINGDOM FORESTRY PRODUCTS LLC	Nature Realm Bridge Decking	5,059.40
KMF CAR WASH LLC	Vehicle Supplies	750.00
KUBICKI ENTERPRISES INC	Maintenance Materials	1.39
M CONLEY CO	Cleaning & Sanitary Supplies	3,227.99
M TECHNOLOGIES INC	Equipment Supplies	494.50
M&M CERTIFIED WELDING	Maintenance Materials	1,370.00
MACHUGA, PAMELA LYNN	Naturalist Program	75.00
MAGIC GARAGE DOOR INC	Garage Door Repairs	1,152.00
MARTIN ELECTRIC CO INC	Maintenance Materials	732.69
MCDONALD HOPKINS LLC	Legal Services	4,345.00
MCMaster CARR SUPPLY CO	Maintenance Supplies	100.65
MEDICAL MUTUAL OF OHIO	Vison Claims & Administration	371.72
MIDWEST MOTOR SUPPLY CO INC	Maintenance Materials	414.54
MJV VENTURES LLC	Employee Appreciation Event	100.00
MS CONSULTANTS INC	Trailhead Feasibility Study	7,483.99
MURPHY TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT CO INC	John Deere Skid Steer	88,094.83
MYTEE INC	Maintenance Materials	47.64
NEWSOME, MADELINE ROSE	Program Supplies Reimbursement	76.92
NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT	Stormwater Service	63.50
OHIO AFSCME CARE PLAN	AFSCME Care Plan	899.75
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL	Police Training	550.00
OHIO EDISON CO	Electric Service	21,190.08
OLIGER SEED CO	Maintenance Materials	116.95
ORCHARD HILTZ & MCCLIMENT INC	Feasibility Study	4,730.00
ORFELY AUTO ENTERPRISES LLC	Vehicle Supplies	459.53
ORFELY ENGINEERING COMPANY	Design Services	2,879.48
OSCAR BRUGMANN SAND & GRAVEL INC	Maintenance Materials	716.72
PARK FORD INC	Vehicle Supplies	1,908.23

PITTSBURGH PAINTS COMPANY	Maintenance Supplies	459.78
PROBE TECHNOLOGIES LTD	Computer Services & Software Subscriptions	49,569.42
PUREBUTTONS COM LLC	Promotional Giveaways	6,225.23
RECYCLING WASTE MANAGEMENT LLC	Composting Service	91.99
REGENERATION SALES COMPANY LLC	Maintenance Materials	447.94
REPROS INC	Maintenance Materials	1,336.80
REPUBLIC SERVICES INC	Disposal Services	3,755.00
RICHARD L BOWEN & ASSOCIATES INC	Architectural Services	2,127.21
RJ PLATTEN CONTRACTING COMPANY	Nature Realm Shelter	63,601.24
ROETZEL & ANDRESS LPA	Legal Services	960.00
ROSENFELD, STANLEY	Damage Reimbursement	123.30
RYE KORP CONTRACTING	Maintenance Repairs	616.21
SACKMANN STAMP AND STENCIL CO INC	Office Supplies	210.00
SANTMYER ENERGY INC	Fuel Delivery	25,967.86
SECURITAS ELECTRONIC SECURITY INC	Security System Replacement	5,831.95
SECURITAS ELECTRONIC SECURITY INC	Security Monitoring Services	3,248.33
SHERWIN WILLIAMS CO	Maintenance Supplies	1,771.36
SHUR TITE PRODUCTS INC	Maintenance Materials	2,112.31
SOCIAL DEPT LLC	Design Services	550.00
SOHARS ALL SEASON MOWER SERVICE INC	Equipment Supplies	3,440.52
SPRING VENTURES INC	Uniforms	1,098.50
STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY	Life Insurance	475.84
STAT INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGIES INC	Aquatic Management	325.00
SUMMA HEALTH SYSTEM	Drug Screens	178.08
SUMMIT C & D TRANSFER LLC	Disposal Services	630.00
SUMMIT COUNTY OH	Real Estate Taxes & Assessment	42,337.50
SUMMIT COUNTY OH	Sewer Service	409.25
SUMMIT FIRE & SECURITY LLC	Inspection Services	400.95
SUMMIT METRO PARKS	FSA & Visa Reimbursement Check	51,970.43
SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA	Dental Claims & Administration	7,367.09
TERRY LUMBER & SUPPLY CO	Maintenance Materials	1,023.02
TIGER SAND AND GRAVEL LLC	Maintenance Materials	1,847.24
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CORP (TASC)	HSA Contributions	1,366.65
ULINE INC	Maintenance Materials & Supplies	490.44
URBAN ONE	Advertising	2,875.00
US DEPT OF AGRICULTURE	Wildlife Management	1,900.63
VEIT LLC	Copier Service Contract	230.71
VILLAGE COMMUNICATIONS INC	Internet Services	2,044.12
VILLAGE OF RICHFIELD	Sewer Service	696.69
VISUAL MARKING SYSTEMS INC	Law Enforcement Supplies	372.00
W W GRAINGER INC	Maintenance Materials	239.08
WARREN PUMP & SUPPLY CO	Maintenance Materials	642.14
WASTE MANAGEMENT OF OHIO INC	Disposal Services	1,842.34
WERTZ GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING INC	Testing & Inspection Services	1,040.70
WEST PUBLISHING CORP	Software Subscription	237.31
WEST SIDE PUBLISHING CO INC	Advertisements	1,380.00
WHITE & SON INVESTMENTS	Vehicle Repairs	330.00
WILBERTS AUTO PARTS NE OHIO LLC	Vehicle Supplies	600.00
WKYC TV LLC	Advertising	5,100.00
ZIEGLER TIRE & SUPPLY CO	Vehicle & Equipment Supplies	2,556.40
ZOLLINGER SAND & GRAVEL CO	Construction Debris Disposal	126.00
ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CINCINNATI	Monkshood Propagation	2,400.00
ZORO TOOLS INC	Construction & Maintenance Materials	21,394.33
ZWILLER USA INC	Maintenance Supplies	4,241.58
		1,320,379.99