

Resolution in support of a Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation grant application for the Utzinger Bog Conservation Project (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING)

WHEREAS, the Ohio Public Works Commission administers the Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Program to fund the preservation of open spaces, sensitive ecological areas, and stream corridors; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code 164.23(B(1)) requires that Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Grant applications include a resolution of support from the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Appalachia Ohio Alliance (AOA), a 501(C)3 nonprofit land conservancy, is the applicant for a Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Grant for the Utzinger Bog Conservation Project, as part of their Scioto River Flyway Corridor Conservation Initiative, to protect approximately 83 acres of land in Jackson Township, Franklin County, located along Jackson Pike (State Route 104) just south of its intersection with Hibbs Road; and

WHEREAS, the site contains wetlands, ponds that were created from the mining of peat bogs, and agricultural fields that AOA intends to turn into a passive park conservation and nature preserve that will protect the bogs and wetland area in perpetuity and allow for the return of agricultural fields to a native habitat as restored prairie grasslands, successional forest, or a combination of both as determined in the development of a site management plan; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Grant will allow AOA to acquire land for a passive park, wetland preservation or restoration, to connect greenway corridors (Scioto Grove Metro Park), and to enhance educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, this resolution is consistent with the Franklin County Board of Commissioners' Core Principles; now, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO:

1. The Board of County Commissioners supports the Appalachia Ohio Alliance application for a Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Fund Round 9 Grant for the Utzinger Bog Conservation Project.

Prepared by: Jenny R. Snapp, Assistant Director
Cc: Economic Development & Planning Department

SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS