REQUESTED BY FIOCCA APPROVED BY PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS INTRODUCED BY FIOCCA

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-38

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE FUNDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE VETERANS TRAIL PROJECT IN THE CITY OF STOW, OHIO

WHEREAS, the Veterans Trail Project is an effort led by Trail Advocates of Summit County, and joined by Summit Metro Parks and Metropolitan Regional Transit Authority to construct a multi-purpose trail, known as Veterans Trail, running through the cities of Akron, Cuyahoga Falls, Silver Lake, Stow, and Hudson; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Trail was built in 1851 and used as a railway, which has been abandoned since 1996; and

WHEREAS, reconstruction for use as a railway would require tremendous investment in order to support rail traffic again and, as such, the owner of the railway, Metro Regional Transit Authority, has expressed an interest in re-purposing the right-of-way to be used as a multi-purpose trail; and

WHEREAS, it has long been recognized as an ideal multi-purpose trail opportunity and has been studied for more than 16 years; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Trail will provide recreational enjoyment for the residents of Stow, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Trail Advocates of Summit County has determined that a trail constructed on a railway is safer because it is level, generally straight and has far less interaction with vehicle traffic; and

WHEREAS, the right-of-way passes through a densely populated section of Summit County yet includes stretches that are quite secluded and very scenic; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Trail would connect with seven other existing or planned trails, ideal for recreational and commuter travel; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Trail Project will provide a safe place for recreational use by cyclists and pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, the City of Stow passed Resolution No. 2019-113, authorizing the City to apply for financial assistance to fund the Veterans Trail Project, previously referred to in said Resolution as the "Stow-Silver Lake-Cuyahoga Falls Bike Connector"; and

WHEREAS, the AMATS Policy Committee awarded the City of Stow grant funding in the amount of \$700,000, to be shared with the city of Cuyahoga Falls receiving 3% of the grant, and

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the Village of Silver Lake receiving 22% of the grant, which funds are to be used for the Veterans Trail Project; and

WHEREAS, the estimates cost of construction of the Veterans Trail Projects is anticipated to be \$920,000; and

WHEREAS, this Council desires to express its support for both the funding and construction of the Veterans Trail Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STOW, COUNTY OF SUMMIT AND STATE OF OHIO:

SECTION 1. That the Council hereby expresses its support for the construction and use of grant funds for the building of the portion of Veterans Trail to be located in the City of Stow, Ohio, as depicted in the attached Exhibit A and as set forth in the grant.

SECTION 2. That Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of this

Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any committees or subcommittees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

SECTION 3. That this resolution was adopted pursuant to Section 4.11, Charter and, pursuant to Section 4.13, Charter, shall take effect upon its adoption by Council and approval by the Mayor, otherwise at the earliest period allowed by law.

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL 3 . (1.) ATTE\$T Lorree Villers

FILED WITH MAYOR 3. 12 21

FILED WITH CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Jaime Syx, LAW DIRECTOR

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

John Pribonic

MAYOR

EFFECTIVE DATE

I Lorree Villers, Clerk

of Council, do hereby certify that copies of the foregoing were

posted in accordance with

Section 10.13 C.O.S.