

**Village of Mantua, Ohio
RESOLUTION 2020-17**

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING ELIMINATION OF THE U.S. CENSUS AKRON METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA, TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT LETTERS OF OPPOSITION TO THIS INITIATIVE.

WHEREAS, the Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS) is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) by the Governor, acting through the Ohio Department of Transportation and in cooperation with locally elected officials for Summit and Portage Counties and the Chippewa and Milton Township areas of Wayne County; and

WHEREAS, Summit and Portage Counties are both contained in the AMATS service area and make up the U.S. Census Bureau's Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area; and

WHEREAS, The Akron metropolitan area has been represented continuously in the U.S Census since 1930 when the U.S. Census Bureau incorporated Metropolitan Districts; and

WHEREAS, Summit County has been part of the Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area since the creation of Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas in 1950; and

WHEREAS, Portage County has been part of the Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area since 1970; and

WHEREAS, the Akron metropolitan area (Summit and Portage Counties) geography was represented in the 1980 U.S. Census as a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area and part of the Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, Ohio Standard Combined Statistical Area; and

WHEREAS, the Akron metropolitan area geography was represented in the 1990 U.S. Census as a Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area and part of the Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, Ohio Combined Metropolitan Statistical Area; and

WHEREAS, the Akron metropolitan area geography was represented in the 2000 U.S. Census as a Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area and part of the Cleveland-Akron-Elyria, Ohio Combined Statistical Area; and

WHEREAS, the Akron metropolitan area geography was represented in the 2010 U.S. Census as a Metropolitan Statistical Area and part of the Cleveland-Akron-Canton, Ohio Combined Statistical Area; and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland metropolitan area and Akron metropolitan area geography were each represented as separate Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas in 1980, separate Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas in 1990 and 2000 separate Metropolitan Statistical Areas in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Akron metropolitan area and Cleveland metropolitan area designations have continued to be identified in the U.S. Census as separate urban areas equal in status; and

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WHEREAS, this delineation of geographies of the Akron and Cleveland metropolitan areas have existed since the creation of Metropolitan Districts in the 1930 U.S. Census; and

WHEREAS, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) has proposed an initiative to combine the Akron, Canton and Cleveland Metropolitan Statistical areas to benefit the Cleveland Metropolitan Statistical Area; and

WHEREAS, the current U.S. Office of Management and Budget Metropolitan Statistical Area methodology does not support NOACA's initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Management and Budget has already acknowledged the geographic complexity and diversity of the region by having separate Metropolitan Statistical Areas (Cleveland, Akron, Canton) as well as a larger Combined Statistical Area, which includes all three of these regions; and

WHEREAS, a combination of the Akron, Canton and Cleveland Metropolitan Statistical Areas would effectively eliminate the Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area; and

WHEREAS, combining MSAs could lead to the elimination of the Akron Urbanized Area and loss of local control of federal transportation funding; and

WHEREAS, communities in Summit and Portage County value being represented by the Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of the Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area would lead to a loss of identity and erosion of stature for the greater Akron area; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of the Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area harms the Akron metropolitan area's ability to differentiate itself in Northeast Ohio with no potential benefits.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Mantua, a majority or more of the members elected thereto concurring, that:

SECTION 1: This Council opposes NOACA's initiative to combine the Akron, Canton and Cleveland Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

SECTION 2: This Council opposes the elimination of the Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area.

SECTION 3: This Council supports the existing Office of Management and Budget U.S. Census Metropolitan Statistical Area methodology.

SECTION 4: This Council affirms that the Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area is important census geography, providing Akron area communities identity as a separate metropolitan area in Northeast Ohio.

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SECTION 5: This Council strongly believes that the Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area must and should remain in the 2020 U.S. Census.

SECTION 6: This Council authorizes and directs the Mayor to submit letters in opposition to this initiative to its Congressional leadership, U.S. Office of Management and Budget, U.S. Census Bureau and the NOACA Executive Committee and Executive Director.

SECTION 7: This Council authorizes and directs the Clerk-Treasurer to provide copies of this Resolution to the appropriate agencies as evidence of action by this Council.

SECTION 8: It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its Committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 9: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect after proper passage by at least a majority of the Mantua Village Council at the earliest time allowed by law.

PASSED AS EMERGENCY, this 21st day of April, 2020.

Attest:

Linda Clark, Mayor

Jenny August, Clerk of Council

I hereby certify that this Resolution was duly published by public posting at pre-designated posting places in the Village of Mantua on the _____ day of April, 2020.

Jenny August, Clerk of Council

Approved as to legal form:

Michele Stuck, Solicitor