



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Monday, April 5, 2021 Minutes

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

6:39 – 8:15 p.m.

President of Council Stein presiding

Roll Call: Present: Cobb, Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar
Excused: None

Staff present: Boland, Clinkscale, Hanna, Himmelein, Lambdin, McRae, Mecklenburg, Niemann
O'Neil, Trupo, Zamft

Topics discussed: Legislation Overview

Executive Session

7:01 – 8:14 p.m.

Council Member Hart made a motion to begin Executive Session to consider the appointment of a public official; 2. To consider the terms of purchase of real property for public purposes; and 3. To consider the sale or lease of City-owned real property. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ungar.

Roll Call: Ayes: Cobb, Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar
Nays: None

Motion Passed

Council Member Dunbar made a motion to end Executive Session which was seconded by Council Member Ungar.

Roll Call: Ayes: Cobb, Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar
Nays: None

Motion Passed

CITY COUNCIL

8:24 – 10:17 p.m.

President of Council Stein presiding

Roll Call: Present: Cobb, Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar
Excused: None

Staff present: Boland, Butler, Clinkscale, Hanna, Himmelein, McRae, Mecklenburg, Niermann
O'Neil, Smith, Trupo, Zamft

Minutes from the City Council meeting held Monday, March 15, 2021 were approved with submitted edits.

Personal communications received from citizens (via electronic mail)

Public comments were read and may be read as submitted at the end of the document.

Council Member Dunbar stated she was the Council representative to Doan Brook Watershed Partnership.

Council Member Hart replied to the GCC letter that was received. She proposed it be referred to the Public Safety Committee for resolution. There is a report by the City Manager in the March 3 Council packet that was an update on the progress on the Novak report. Council President Stein referred the matter to the Public Safety and Health Committee Chair Craig Cobb to have as an agenda item at the next committee meeting.

Council President Stein referred the Shaker Lakes fishing inquiries to Community Relations and Recreation Committee Chair Davida Russell for a discussion within that committee along with stakeholders. Council Member Russell stated residents that live in that area will be invited as well. Council President Stein stated that Council Member Dunbar could participate there as the representative to Doan Brook.

Council Member Ungar read his response to a public comment directed to him as one of two Jewish people on Council. He stated that this has nothing to do with religion or silencing anyone, indeed just the opposite. He stated he respects her views, trees, and the need for development and investment like this for the overall benefit of our community.

Report of the City Manager

Contracts from the Board of Elections were received to use the Community Center for the elections that are coming up Tuesday, August 3: Congressional primary election replacing Congresswoman Marcia Fudge; Tuesday, September 14: City's primary election; and Tuesday, November 2: General election. This will be posted on the City's website as well.

Sealed bids were received on March 12, for project #21-02 – 2021 Street Resurfacing & ADA Curb Ramp Replacement Program. There were nine bids received and Chagrin Valley Paving, Inc. of Chagrin Falls, Ohio's bid of \$578,588.45 has been found to be the lowest and best responsive and responsible bid.

Matter of Record

Sealed bids were received on February 26, for project #21-03 – 2021 Surface Treating Program. There were three bids received and N.E.S. Corporation, of Cleveland, Ohio's bid of \$79,560.83 has been found to be the lowest and best responsive and responsible bid.

Matter of Record

Report of the Chief of Police

Chief Mecklenburg stated that there will be two town hall meeting to discuss four policies that have been drafted. The first meeting will be April 13 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss Recruitment and Selection Policy and the Vehicle Pursuit Policy. The second meeting will be April 23 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss Bias-based Policing Policy and Use of Force Policy. Policies are available online under the News link and community members are encouraged to provide comments and questions by April 9 at noon. Each meeting will last approximately 90 minutes. Due to an unforeseen emergency, the Diversity Institute had to postpone providing the data analysis for the traffic stops, but they will be available by April 9.

Council Member Russell asked since these meetings are occurring before having the Racial Justice Task Force, will this information be available for them to go over? Chief Mecklenburg agreed it will be available, but they want to have some policies in place to provide officers with guidance.

Report of the Clerk of Council

Notify Council that a notice has been received from the Ohio Department of Liquor Control advising that an application has been made by 1854 Coventry Courtyard LLC, 1854 Coventry Rd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44118 for new D1, D3, D3A and D6 permits

Matter of Record

FINANCE COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE NO. 46-2021 (F). An ordinance to amend certain subparagraphs of Ordinance No. 127-2020 (F) and subsequent amending ordinances, relating to appropriations and other expenditures of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021

Finance Director Amy Himmelein stated that the Building Department has recently implemented a new software system, CitizenServe, that will allow them to collect permit revenue online. With this change, there will be more fees to the credit card company and that's the reason for that increase. The increase for the penalty for the IRS is the same as what was previously presented to Council and this will hopefully be the last one.

Introduced by Council Member Hart, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar

Council President Stein clarified that this was previously on the consent agenda and it was pulled from there.

Roll Call: Ayes: Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar, Cobb
Nays: None

Legislation Passed

MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Council Member Dunbar gave a shout out to the Public Works Department for getting so much done to get the roads resurfaced and purchasing needed equipment to serve citizens. She stated that she discussed the following legislation with Public Works staff to receive all the answers to her questions and she was in favor of all of them.

RESOLUTION NO. 29-2021 (MS). A Resolution requesting cooperation with Cuyahoga County to participate in the resurfacing project on Coventry Road, from Fairhill Road to Euclid Heights Boulevard

Introduced by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Russell

Roll Call: Ayes: Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar, Cobb, Dunbar
Nays: None

Legislation Passed

RESOLUTION NO. 30-2021 (MS). A Resolution authorizing participation in the Ohio Department of Transportation Cooperative Purchasing Program for road salt for the 2021-22 winter season

Introduced by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Hart

Roll Call: Ayes: Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar, Cobb, Dunbar, Hart
Nays: None

Legislation Passed

RESOLUTION NO. 31-2021 (MS). A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for, accept, and enter into a second Cooperative Agreement for planning and/or construction of the 2021 Refuse & Recycling Automation & Transfer Station

Improvements project between the City of Cleveland Heights and the Ohio Water Development Authority

Introduced by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Hart

Roll Call: Ayes: Seren, Stein, Ungar, Cobb, Dunbar, Hart, Russell
Nays: None

Legislation Passed

RESOLUTION NO. 32-2021 (MS). A Resolution requesting cooperation with Cuyahoga County to participate in the resurfacing project on Superior Road, from Euclid Avenue to Lee Road

Introduced by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Russell

Roll Call: Ayes: Stein, Ungar, Cobb, Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren
Nays: None

Legislation Passed

RESOLUTION NO. 33-2021 (MS). A Resolution authorizing an agreement with Ganley Ford, Inc., for the purchase of four 2021 Ford Utility Police Interceptors and related equipment for the Police Department

Introduced by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Ungar

Roll Call: Ayes: Ungar, Cobb, Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein
Nays: None

Legislation Passed

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Council Member Ungar stated there was a piece of legislation that was pulled.

Council Member Ungar stated that Council continues to get a lot of communication from residents. There is some misinformation out there he wanted to address. The project with Metro Health is a positive development for our city. It is a \$42,000,000 investment in our city. City staff and Metro staff worked hard together to get this to fruition. The project went through the entire process with Planning Commission, ABR, Board of Control, and others scrutinizing it. If Council did not act when and how it did, we would have lost an estimated labor cost during construction of approximately \$12,000,000 that translates into \$270,000

that drops right to our bottom line, the income of the city. The first-year projection is 155 full-time equivalents, just shy of \$10,000,000 generating \$217,000 in brand new income for our city. The estimate is by Year 5, once fully staffed, there will be 225 full-time equivalent employees with a payroll of \$15,000,000 which generates \$342,000 annually for our city. There are other measured and unmeasurable collateral impact such as the restaurants and business they will support.

In response to the concerns about the trees, both city and Metro staff collaborated and it resulted in a 39% reduction in the number of trees removed. Once the project is completed, Metro Health has committed to plant only species native to Ohio.

Council Member Ungar stated he's disappointed that someone would vote against the project and then turn around and take some credit for what ultimately happened on the site. Many Council members worked hard on this and it takes a team effort. A rumor has been spread that there was a rush to judgement and attention was not given to details, but that is a false narrative. Council Member Ungar stated he praises all the members on Council that voted in favor of it and had the not, the city would have lost this project to another city that would have welcomed it with open arms.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH

Council Member Ungar welcomed Craig Cobb back to Council and stated he's excited to yield the Chairmanship of this committee to him.

Council Member Ungar made a recommendation of behalf of the Public Safety and Health Committee to appoint members to the Racial Justice Task Force; Rhonda Davis-Lovejoy as Chair and Mario Clopton-Zymler as Vice Chair.

Motion made by Council Member Ungar, Seconded by Council Member Russell

Roll Call: Ayes: Cobb, Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar
Nays: None

Motion Passed

ORDINANCE NO. 34-2021 (PSH), First Reading. An Ordinance enacting new Chapter 765 of the Cleveland Heights Codified Ordinances, pertaining to third-party food delivery services; establishing a limit on the commission that third parties can charge to restaurants located in the City of Cleveland Heights to 15% of the purchase price on delivery or pick-up orders while restaurants are unable to provide unrestricted dine-in service; prohibiting a reduction in compensation for delivery drivers as a result of this limit

Introduced by Council Member Ungar

Legislation Introduced

Council Member Russell stated she'd tried to call Council Vice President Seren to apologize that she hadn't realized he had already introduced the legislation to the Law Department when she was discussing it. Council Vice President Seren stated that earlier in the year, he reached out to staff and restaurant owners regarding the topic and the effect it would have on drivers and restaurants.

Council Member Hart recommended that both of their names could appear on the legislation. Council Vice President Seren suggested that we not change mid-course, but begin to think about how we sponsor legislation as other bodies of legislation can introduce something together or request the addition of another name as a co-sponsor.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Council Vice President Seren welcomed Council Member Cobb to Council and stated he looked forward to working with him as Vice Chair of the Administrative Services Committee.

Council Vice President Seren stated he had drafted some amendments to the Codified Ordinances that would create a requirement for rental units built before January 1, 1978, to be certified as lead safe as a condition of their rental occupancy permit. These have been sent to the Law Director for review in advance of any introduction. He also started a conversation with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health and other members of the Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition Steering Committee for guidance and input.

There was a public comment that he supports regarding the creation of a dog park in Cleveland Heights.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-2021 (AS), *Second Reading*. An Ordinance amending various Sections of Chapter 749, "Fair Practices" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights to include Source of Income as a prohibited, discriminatory rationale for the purposes of fair housing practices.

Introduced by Council Vice President Seren

This legislation will go on third reading. Any questions regarding the legislation may be addressed to Council Vice President Seren, Council Member Dunbar or Council Member Cobb.

Legislation Passed

For those not familiar with the Novak report, a large portion of that report is specific to Housing Code, but there is a substantial piece of that report that has more to do with the Administrative Code, staffing, salaries, classifications, organizational structure, and performance management. Some of this can be broken out into conversations that can be included in the Administrative Services Committee meeting. He stated that some of those conversations may be held regarding other departments as well.

Council Vice President Seren gave an overview of Ordinance No. 25-2021 and explained that neighboring communities have passed this legislation so residents could not be discriminated against based on their source of income. This was intended to be a companion piece to another piece of legislation that Council Member Ungar is working with the Law Department on related to, “pay to stay,” which would allow for a tenant who is a bit late to pay their back rent and any late fees up to the date of the eviction hearing.

Council Member Russell asked if there was something on the books regarding an inspection for a landlord who is renting; making sure the home is lead free. Council Vice President Seren stated the way it works now is that the community decided we’re using children as our lead detectors. So, when a child presents elevated blood levels, at that point, the residents may be tested. This is a more proactive approach to start the process of testing and remediation or abatement of the lead hazards. Council Member Russell stated she was under the assumption that a landlord had to test for lead prior to a tenant moving in. Council Vice President Seren stated that the City of Cleveland just began their process of Lead Safe testing. Council Member Russell thanked him and stated she has to do that as a landlord herself.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council Member Russell stated that the PRO Act has been pulled so there can be open discussion for educating some of our colleagues on the importance of collective bargaining, to increase the pay and protections for women, people of color, immigrants, and our LGBT communities.

RESOLUTION NO. 36-2021 (CRR). A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Snider Recreation Inc., to design and install a new all-inclusive playground at Forest Hill Park

Motion made by Council Member Russell, Seconded by Council Member Hart

Council Member Dunbar stated that Fairfax Elementary School has inclusive equipment.

Roll Call: Ayes: Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar, Cobb
 Nays: None

Legislation Passed

Council Member Russell stated the park should be completed by the end of May, no longer than the first week of June. Council Member Russell stated that the City Manager will have staff clean the salt dome.

She thanked staff for the blast regarding the COVID-19 shots. She had 250 access codes to distribute which were mostly used over the first weekend available. Tomorrow is the last day for those Pfizer access codes. She will be getting more access codes for the Johnson & Johnson vaccine starting on April 27. They are trying to get another site at the Community Center as well.

Consent Agenda

Note: Individual Consent Agenda items are not discussed separately during the Council meeting, unless removed from the Consent Agenda on the request of a member of Council. Once an item is removed from the Consent Agenda it will be placed on the Regular Agenda.

Amy Himmelein asked the President of Council to confirm that pursuant to the Committee of the Whole Discussion, Resolution 45-2021 has been pulled from the agenda. Council President stated confirmed that.

RESOLUTION NO. 37-2021 (CRR). A Resolution joining with HUD and other communities throughout the nation in the observation of April as Fair Housing Month; reaffirming the City of Cleveland Heights' commitment to open housing

RESOLUTION NO. 38-2021 (CRR). A Resolution proclaiming April 2021 to be Autism Awareness Month and April 2, 2021 to be World Autism Awareness Day

RESOLUTION NO. 39-2021 (PD). A Resolution proclaiming April 5-9, 2021 to be National Community Development Week

RESOLUTION NO. 40-2021 (CRR). A Resolution proclaiming April 4-10, 2021 to be National Library Week

RESOLUTION NO. 41-2021 (CRR). A Resolution proclaiming April 2021 to be National Poetry Month

RESOLUTION NO. 42-2021 (MS). A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Best Equipment Company, Inc., for the acquisition of a Peterson

Model TL-3 Lightning Loader mounted on a Freightliner M-2 Chassis for the Department of Public Works; providing compensation therefor

RESOLUTION NO. 43-2021 (MS). A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with 72 Hour LLC dba National Auto Fleet Group, for the acquisition of a 2022 Ford Super Duty F-550 XL 4WD Reg Cab with LoadMaster 6 CU YD Rear Loader for the Department of Public Works; providing compensation therefor

RESOLUTION NO. 44-2021 (MS). A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with 72 Hour LLC dba National Auto Fleet Group, for the acquisition of two 2022 Ford Super Duty F-350 SRW (F3A) XL 2WD Pick-up Trucks for the Department of Public Works; providing compensation therefor

Motion to suspend rules by Council Member Hart, Seconded by Council Member Ungar

Roll Call: Ayes: Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar, Cobb, Dunbar
Nays: None

Motion Passed

Motion to adopt the legislation by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Hart

Roll Call: Ayes: Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar, Cobb, Dunbar, Hart
Nays: None

Legislation Passed

Council President's Report

No report.

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Jason S. Stein, President of Council

Amy Himmelein, Clerk of Council
/jkc

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1 Name Megan Shumaker

Public Comment Please consider the current parking that is already available at The shopping center. There are very few mature trees and green spaces left. They are important for our environment as well as improving human health and mental health. We do not need another parking lot for the new clinic site. Please use what is already available and preserve our natural spaces. Thank you.

2 Name Heather Martin

Public Comment Hello City Council, I oppose the destruction of almost an acre of trees in the woods adjacent to Severance, known as Milliken Woods. The trees are what makes Cleveland Heights beautiful. Why cut down trees when there is so much empty space at severance. We should be doing all we can to preserve all natural spaces no matter how large or small. In fact, we need to be making more green spaces in a desperate attempt to help slow global warming we need to fight for every bit of green space. It is a sanctuary for birds, bugs, and wildlife. When they developed Legacy Village and Super Walmart, everyone was surprised by all the deer living in the neighborhoods. Say no to the money. Tear down severance and tear up all that pavement and put in MORE TREES and gardens.

3 Name Aaron Yilmaz

Public Comment As a resident of Cleveland Heights, and on behalf of my fellow residents, I would like to request that Cleveland Heights officially open Lower Shaker lake to public fishing, and that once public fishing has been established, that Lower Shaker lake be stocked with fish for public enjoyment. I have talked to the ODNR, NEOSRD, and the Doan Brook Watershed Partnership. It seems that all these entities, including Shaker Heights are open to public fishing and fish stocking, but Cleveland Heights is not.

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District fish surveys have found that only carp, goldfish, green sunfish, suckers, and creek chub live in this entire watershed. Fish surveys from 1968 to 1994 in the Doan Brook watershed indicate that previously may have been a greater diversity of desirable fish--bass, pickerel, catfish, and many others. Restocking this lake would be a great benefit to the people of Cleveland Heights, would provide opportunities for recreational angling, and would improve the species diversity in this watershed. This would be a great time to stock Lower Shaker lake, as they just drained it and as a result the majority of the carp therein are now dead.

For the benefit and enjoyment of our community, please open Lower Shaker lake to fishing and allow it to be stocked by ODNR. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

4 Name Robert McConaughy

Public Comment We need to officially remove the restriction against fishing in Lower Shaker Lake. Please make this change so that ODNR can manage the lake which they will not do unless the Cleveland

Heights make a move. This will help maintain a better quality of life for humans and non-humans and provide a beneficial gem for the our city.

5 Name David Shelton

Public Comment I hope Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights, & the ODNR can come to a resolution to restock with native species Lower Shaker Lake. It would seem to be a positive action for all involved: the Lake, wildlife, environment, & residents.
Cost would seem to be low as well.
Thank you for creating this forum so community voices can speak out on the topic.

6 Name Robin Roberts

Public Comment As a long time Cleveland heights native and an avid bird watcher it's time we allow fishing in lower shaker lakes. This will allow the state to restock native fish in this lake and thus bring backs the native ducks. This lake needs us!

7 Name Kenneth Kowalski

Public Comment The lower Shaker lake should be restored to its natural state. Apparently, it is only C.H.'s statutory ban on fishing that stands in the the way of doing this. There seems to be no rational basis for such a ban and I strongly support its removal.

8 Name Kathryn Weise

Public Comment I support opening fishing at the Cleveland Heights side of the lower lake in order to allow stocking the lake with native fish species. Im not a fisherman/woman, but believe that diversifying wildlife there will enhance the health of the ecosystem and enhance our experience of using the area for recreation.

9 Name James Bashaw

Public Comment Please do what is necessary to rid Shaker Lakes of invasive fish species such as carp and to promote the return of native species of fish, fauna, & flora to the Shaker Lakes system.

10 Name Debbie ApplePresser

Public Comment How lucky are we to have the Shaker Lakes in our backyard. It is beloved by both CH and SH.

It is a jewel. I just read an article about the drainage, dam repairs and desire by SH and Cleveland Heights residents to get rid

of the invasive carp and restock it with native species. This will start the chain of events to restore the health of the ecosystem. The article states that the only obstacle is CH approval, but gives no reasons. Is it people fishing? Humans are so good at destroying nature. Could the sole act of fishing destroy a healthy ecosystem? Or is there another reason for going in the direction of killing the lake off completely?

11 Name Michael Conkey

Public Comment Cleveland Heights we want to have open fishing in Shake Lakes which will bring our wildlife back through native fish stocking:

12 Name Florence Worth

Public Comment Cleveland Heights should vote to have fishing in the city so that we can resurrect our precious lakes. Anytime invasive carp take over a habitat, there is habitat destruction. Please cooperate with Shaker Heights in restoring the lakes and allowing the State to stock native fish species.

The Shaker Lakes are essential to the communities in which they are situated. People need Nature; wildlife and diversity in the Animal and Plant kingdoms, to stay grounded and calm. We need our elected officials to make this happen. Thank you.

13 Name Byron Webster

Public Please approve fishing on the Cleveland Hts side of the Shaker lakes.

Comment This will Allow ODNR to stock the lake with native fish

14 Name Tom lightbody

Public the lower lake needs our help. A healthy stock of native fish is
Comment needed. Allowing people to fish at the lake will allow the ODNR to stock the lake with bluegill, bass and other species. This will help not only human anglers, but also the birds: ospreys, kingfishers, the bald eagle, and various herons including green and great blue.

15 Name Molly Garfield

Public Comment Please undo the parking lot vote. It is time for creativity.

16 Name Roz OHearn

Public 1. Please allow fishing at Lower Lake which will allow
Comment ODNR to restock the lake with native species which will be beneficial for Lower Lake.

2. As you direct your attention to Lower Lake, please also repair the large equipment damage to the path on the North Park side which is crumbling badly and presents danger to walkers/runners. This occurred during last year's work on the lake.

3. Tree spread is also narrowing the walkway along North Park; the path would benefit from regular pruning.

4. It would also be great if you could trim trees again along the sidewalk on Coventry between North Park and South Park which overhang the sidewalk.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this wonderful natural resource which brings such pleasure to both the Shaker and Cleveland Heights communities!

17 Name Candace Lake

Public Comment Please allow the Lower Shaker Lake to to be filled and stocked with native fish and enable fishing in the lake, We need to restore the entire native ecosystem occupants now that the carp have been eliminated. Let's give Mother Nature a hand here. Restore the lake to a thriving native ecosystem.

18 Name Joanne Siegel

Public Comment "SAVE LOWER SHAKER LAKE'S WILDLIFE, & MAINTAIN THE SURROUNDING AREA"
The Ohio Dept of Natural Resources," (ODNR) wants to

stock native, beneficial fish species in Lower Shaker Lake, as does The City of Shaker Heights. Cleveland Heights is standing in the way.

Cleveland Heights needs to allow fishing on the CH side of the Lake. If we do, the ODNR will stock the Lake with native fish. Shaker already allows fishing on their side. Lower Lake is soon to be dead & lifeless. Don't let this happen!

How does this move help keep the Lake alive? If we introduce native predatory fish, the carp will be gone, native plants and other organisms will return, & we will have our turtles, waterfowl, & maybe even our bald eagles back. Carp root up native plants with their feeding habits, & destroy habitat for these animals, & depletes the water of oxygen.

The Lake is currently drained, so NOW is the time to introduce the native fish! Please act fast!

I would suggest that Cleveland Heights & The City of Shaker Heights work together in all endeavors to keep this gem we share as clean, beautiful, & safe as possible for all of us. This includes the area around the Lake, such as maintaining the trails & the lighting. The asphalt trails on the CH side are in disrepair. The lighting by the bridge includes burned out bulbs.

19 Name Olivia Gugliemotto

Public Comment I ask that Cleveland Heights considers legalizing fishing on the north side of Shaker Lake. Legalizing fishing would allow ODNR to restock the lake with native fish; which would in turn protect and promote the growth of native plants. As an environmental scientist, I think it's important that we take action to support our ecosystems for their intrinsic and natural value. This would be an easy step for Cleveland Heights to take to support our

environment!

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

20 Name Gracie Evans-Golden

Public Comment You should allow finishing in lower shaker lake!

21 Name Dan Kelly

Public Comment I am requesting that Cleveland Heights open fishing on the Lower Shaker Lake. In addition to supporting the responsible practice of a beneficial outdoor activity, this would also promote wildlife, native plants, and the health of the local ecosystem by encouraging ODNR to stock the lake with native fish.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

22 Name Lia Snyder

Public Comment Open fishing so wildlife will come back to lower lake! It is central to the community and atmosphere of the heights. Please take action

23 Name Allison Snyder

Public Comment Please allow fishing at the Lower Lake to encourage native species.

24 Name Johnny Su

Public Comment Allow fishing on the Cleveland heights side of the lower shaker lake to allow ORNR TO REINTRODUCE native fish species

25 Name Kathy Weck

Public Comment I encourage the City of Cleveland Heights to open fishing on the Lower Shaker Lakes in an effort to bring natural wildlife back to our community.

26 Name Sam King

Public Comment Please allow fishing on Lower Shaker Lake! For the sake of our wildlife, our cities and nature's beauty. What a wonderful natural habitat going to waste if we can't fill it back-up with water.

27 Name Erika Grauzinis

**Public
Comment**

Please allow fishing on lower Shaker Lake!! The benefits that come from this are tremendous-- a restocked lake with native species, the return of turtles, amphibians, waterfowl.... and no more invasive carp! This isn't even about fishing, but allowing the lake to be restored to its native habitat. We can't let this lake turn into a muddy unsightly mess. CH residents value their parks and wildlife, and the lower lake is the epicenter of this love of nature.

On another topic, the talk of a dog park is growing, and it is undeniable how beneficial this would be. All the other local public dog parks in the Cleveland area bring alot of visitors from other neighborhoods and suburbs. They are a communal gathering space and much like playgrounds, draw families to the area. With dogs needing space to run around, CH residents either have to drive to a far away dog park or let their pet play fetch in the various fields in the area like Cain park. It would be easy to add a fence and other dog park staples to one of these fields and encourage community.

28 Name Marc Jaffe

**Public
Comment**

It is my understanding that allowing fishing of the lower lake would enable it to be restocked with native species that would improve the ecology of the lake and increase wildlife. I can't see any reason this would be objectionable. As someone who walks around the lake almost daily, seeing people out fishing would even add to the ambiance. I hope the city will approve fishing.

**Public
Comment**

Good evening City Council and staff,

I have a few quick items I would like to address.

First, I am glad to see the city move forward with the MetroHealth expansion. This project will be economically stimulating and improve our city and improve access to behavioral health treatments.

Second, I am pleased with the city's decision to move into the 21st century with automated trash pick-up. When I was house hunting in 2018, I was shocked that people just threw their trash on the tree lawns and seeing trash littered around the street after trash collection day. I have never lived anywhere before where this was commonplace. My question for staff and council is regarding streets with duplex and triplex housing like Kensington. As a homeowner on Kensington, I pay a trash bill for each unit. Does this mean that when bins are passed out, that I will get two trash and two recycling bins? I am not sure that it is entirely necessary, and if every duplex or triplex on Kensington received two or three bins each, the street would be quite full of bins. But, at the same time, if we don't get double or triple the bins, is it equitable that we be charged so much for trash services? These are things to consider while working out the details of this new system. Again, I am happy to see this progress being made and I look forward to the solutions that are found.

Finally, I would like to just mention my displeasure with the attitudes of several members of city council. I routinely watch city council meetings and there are characteristics and traits that I find admirable about each of the various members of City Council. And I frequently find myself agreeing with parts of everyone's stances on various issues. There is nobody I see entirely eye-to-eye with, and nobody I find myself at complete odds with. This being said, some of the pettiness and divisiveness I have seen from members of council towards other members, and at times, towards staff is unacceptable and sophomoric. This is not how elected members of council should behave. You should hold yourself to a higher standard. We need to work together to move Cleveland Heights forward, and not work against each other. There is so much potential here, and I hope to see the city continue to move forward. Everyone should take time and make an effort to self-reflect and try to be better.

Reader: Amy

Thanks for the work you do, lets just try and be nicer as we do it, because "All are Welcome Here."

30 Name Karyn Thomas

Public Comment Please consider allowing the state to stock the Lower Shaker Lake with fish. My information points to this as a good thing. If I am misinformed then a public discussion could be used to educate me! If my information is correct, please let the public know why Cleveland Heights is hindering the state's efforts.

Best regards and thank you for your service to the community,

31 Name Louis Adrean

Public Comment Please allow the Lower Lake to be restocked with fish. It is imperative that the ecology of the lake is not compromised by invasive carp and non-native plants. And, please allow fishing at the lake. It's ludicrous that residents can fish on the Shaker side of the lake but not on the Cleveland Heights side.

32 Name Karen Katzman

Public Comment I am writing with unbelievable disappointment sadness. I might be wrong but I am thinking you are also Jewish? I do not know how you voted for tearing down the old growth trees behind MetroHealth for parking. I do not know what you read and say and hear when you go to services but I have always learned that we are responsible for our brothers, to care for the sick and hungry and to be good stewards of the earth. I grew up going to Heights Jewish Center but have also gone to Temple Ner Tamid, Temple Emanuel and Beth El. Never

Reader: Amy

have I heard that destroying our environment for the benefit for profit or for business is ok. There is already an abundance of paved and unused parking right by MetroHealth that makes the area where the trees are unnecessary to be cut down for new parking. There seems to be no vision with the elected officials of the city. Why would anyone choose to cut down old growth trees when parking is already nearby. We all know the importance trees play in our health and the environment. As a tax paying resident I truly would like to know how you could possibly come to the conclusion you did. And why was resident input not publicized? Maybe ya'll knew how we would be thinking and figured it would be easier to keep in less out in the open????

33 Name Suzanne Miller

Public Comment Please allow/authorize public fishing at Shaker Lakes. Shaker Heights already permits this, and since the lake will be stocked without charge to Cleveland Heights, what can be the objection? Fishing is an ancient, peaceable, and pleasurable activity--please don't stifle this opportunity.

34 Name Catherine Rotolo

Public Comment Please allow fishing at lower lake so that the lake may be stocked.

35 Name Jonathan Strassfeld

Public Comment I am writing to urge you to allow fishing on the Cleveland Heights side of the Lower Shaker Lake, which will ODNR to restock the lake with native fish species and protect the local ecosystem.

36 Name Nina Rito

**Public
Comment**

Dear Cleveland Heights please open fishing, to help our wildlife preservation at Lower Shaker Lake which will bring our wildlife back through native fish stocking.

The introduction of native fish species will have a bottom-up effect that will improve the ecology of the lake and bring back wildlife. It's sad to see the current situation. Please help our community be the beautiful oasis it has historically been.

37 Name Marjorie Bashaw

**Public
Comment**

I understand that it's necessary to have the Shaker Lakes stocked with native fish in order to eliminate the harmful and invasive carp species that is threatening the health of the lakes and the wildlife that they have been supporting. Please allow fishing in the lakes so that the ODNR will stock them. The Shaker Lakes are tremendous assets for our community and need to be properly maintained, supported, and protected.

38 Name Samuel Marcum

**Public
Comment**

It's unconcionable that I need to drive my children all the way to Lake Erie or a neighboring city simply to teach my children fish. I introduced them to the sport last year an ALL of them loved it. This was quality bonding time and they asked almost daily if we could go.

It's come to my attention that Cleveland Heights is the sole entity responsible for the fact that I cannot take my kids to Shaker Lake. I understand that the ODNR woudl fully stock the lake if not for my city's obstinate closure of their half of the lake to fishers. (Without the lake stocked, fishing on Shaker's side is an exercise in futility.)

Reader: Amy

Please: let's move beyond this 1950s "protectionist/anti-sportsmanship" mantra. Introduction of native game fish would also help ecologically, while giving our citizens another outlet to spend their summer days in their own community.

39 Name Cathie Bleck

Public Comment I urge you to allow fishing in Lower Shaker Lakes. Returning native fish will create a healthier ecosystem for the lake and all wildlife in the area.

40 Name Linda Rankin

Public Comment I understand that the ODNR would stock Lower Shaker Lake with fish if it was opened up for fishing. Shaker Heights does allow fishing but not Cleveland Heights. I would hope that Cleveland Heights would reconsider the fishing ban. I have spent many enjoyable afternoons with my son fishing and think it is a wonderful way to spend time with our children outside and electronic device free. I believe the Shaker Lakes are underutilized and could provide much more by way of recreational activities than simply looking at them from the shore. And restoring native fish would be so much better for the ecology of the lakes. Thank you.

41 Name Charles Peterson

Public Comment Let's allow fishing in Shaker Lakes

Reader: Amy

42 Name Liz Woyczynski

Public Comment Please allow Shaker Lakes to be stocked with native fish to help restore our native plants, birds, etc. to Shaker Lakes! Think global, act local!

43 Name Suzanne Hartford

Public Comment I join all interested in seeing Lower Shaker Lake restocked with any fish that can survive in that water AND for allowing permitted individuals to fish from the Cleveland Heights side of the lake. One of the purposes of saving the lake and the flyway was to keep and now bring back native wildlife. If Cleveland Heights has informally allowed or at least not chosen to prosecute fisherpeople, why not drop the charade and let them fish. AND if the ODNR will do the stocking at no cost, all the better.

44 Name Robert Hartford

Public Comment I would like to encourage the City of Cleveland Heights to permit fishing on the Shaker Lower Lake and allow the ODNR to stock it with whatever species they think most appropriate. I assume there may be permits needed. I encourage Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights to work out a mutually agreeable policy to continue the revitalization of this area. It should no longer be Albert Porter's "2-bit duck pond".

45 Name Caitlin O" Connor

Reader: Amy

**Public
Comment**

I would like to express my absolute support for allowing fishing at the lower Shaker Lake in order to restore ecosystem and maintain the wonderful lakes that we are so fortunate to have.

46 Name

Mona Kolesar

Public Comment

Stock the lakes we share with Shaker.

47 Name

Diane Armstrong

Public Comment

Please allow stocking of Shaker Lakes with game fish.

48 Name

Renee Psiakis

**Public
Comment**

I am adding to my recent comment:
If fishing in the lower lake is allowed, PLEASE regulate and license the fisherpeople so as not to have the lakes lined with people fishing who know nothing about it.

49 Name

Jennifer Lehner

Public Comment Please allow fishing on the Cleveland Heights side of lower Shaker Lake!
Let's restock it with native fish so we can make the ecosystem healthy again?
It just seems like common sense to me!

50 Name Jeffrey Talbert

Public Comment Please allow fishing in Lower Shaker Lake.

51 Name Esther Talbert

Public Comment Please allow fishing on Lower Shaker Lake.

52 Name John Fries

Public Comment Allow fishing in the shaker lakes to restore native wildlife!

53 Name Matt Lindley

Public Comment I would like to urge council to change fishing regulations on Lower Shaker Lake. With the possibility of an ODNR grant to stock native fish, that would go a long way to returning the whole Doan Brook watershed to a more balanced, native ecology,

54 Name Mike Dudzinsky

Public Comment I encourage City Council to allow fishing in Lower Shaker Lake. Shaker Heights currently allows fishing and if Cleveland Heights officially permits fishing, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources will approve permits for the lake to be stocked with native fish using private funds. Introducing native fish species should significantly improve the aquatic habitat, help prevent the deterioration of the lake and surrounding parkland and keep it a wonderful natural area for Cleveland Heights residents to enjoy.

55 Name Christine Hill

Public Comment I would like Cleveland Hts to approve fishing on this side of the Shaker Lakes Lower side.
Please permit fishing so we can bring back the wildlife back and fish and fowl. My husband and I approve this and hope you will join with Shaker Hts in doing what's right for this community.
Thank you for your time and consideration.

56 Name Timothy Bell

Public Comment I visit this park and lake almost every day of the year. I sit at the water's edge when it's nice out; I trudge through the snow; I huddle against the wind. I have seen osprey, a bald eagle, chipmunks, red-tailed hawks, curious deer, annoying geese, countless carp and even a car in the middle of the lake.
This lake and park is a special place (although I'm glad the car is gone!).
This opportunity to ecologically balance the lake and surrounding woodland's ecosystem feels like the right idea at the right time.
Please support the initiative to stock Lower Shaker Lake with

indigenous fish species and allow fishing on the Cleveland Heights side of the lake.

57 Name Chris Taggart

Public Comment Please allow fishing on the Cle Heights side of Shaker Lakes. We want the lake stocked to provide fun and educational opportunities for our children to better connect to the nature and life around them. Shaker allows it, there's no reason not to allow it on the other side of the lake.

58 Name Victor Hernandez

Public Comment I am petitioning to stock the Shaker Laker with native fish and to open them up for fishing. Stocking the Lake will help bring back native wildlife and balance the ecosystem in the lakes; it's a win win for everyone. ODNR and Shaker Heights are on board, why aren't we in Cleveland Heights?

59 Name William First

Public Comment Stock the lake with native fish!! Restore the ecology!

60 Name Nikki Rossetti

Public Comment Please allow the OH Dept of Natural Resources to restock the lower lake with natural fish species!!!

61 Name Laura Cyrocki

Public Comment I'd like you to share my comment at the April 5th meeting of the City Council. From what I understand, there is a good opportunity to stock the Lower Shaker Lake with native fish, as long as fishing is allowed. I would like you to please vote to allow fishing.

62 Name Matt Trowbridge

Public Comment To our esteemed community representatives and policymakers:
My request is to promote the stocking of natural fish species within Lower Lake. I speak having shared this sentiment with others within our community who also love and embrace the opportunities for natural recreation within the Heights system. Our community has a strong desire for and would benefit wonderfully from the opening of fishing - particularly through Lower Lake - which will bring additional wildlife back through native fish stocking. Lower Lake's water quality can support a population of native fish, reptiles, and amphibians as outlined in the Doan Brook Handbook. A collaboration of fishing policy involving Shaker Heights and Cleveland Heights would help support both communities in conjunction and benefit all members. No matter how much residents desire to enrich their local ecosystems and recreation, however, Lower Lake would need the management's approval between Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights for stocking the lake. Carp, contrary to more beneficial local species, are a rugged & destructive invasive species that severely degrades the water quality and habitat at Lower Lake. This species would prevent native species from establishing and/or thriving. Carp aggressively consume vegetation and destroy conditions that frogs, turtles, and other local wildlife need to thrive - ultimately driving out native reptiles, amphibians, fish, and waterfowl through their presence. This negative effect

can be reversed by stocking native fish in place of carp which will support other wildlife while at the same time removing their aggressor.

A vibrant and lively culture is a hallmark of Shaker Heights and the pride of those who dwell there. Likewise the Cleveland Heights community shares this pride in culture and the marriage between nature & history that is built into the heart of our cities. What better way to embrace our historical roots and enrich our local ecosystems than to stock this lake with local species, further bolstering the quality of life and recreation in the Heights system.

Thank you for your time and attention.

63 Name Sandra Wilson

Public Comment For all the reasons so ably laid out by Ray Johnson in his post of March 29 on Nextdoor.com,
I ask that you consider all these points and then vote to allow fishing on the CH side of Lower Shaker Lake.

64 Name Emily Laurance

Public Comment I am in favor of allowing fishing in Lower Shaker Lake so that the ODNR will stock the water with native fish for free.

65 Name Kirsten Scheid

Public Comment I support fishing in the shaker lakes on the Cleveland heights side (of which I am a resident). I want native fish species returned to the lake. Thank you

66 First Name Andrew Hartstein

Public CommentI would like fish in the lake

67 Name Richard Goddard**Public Comment** I want to urge City Council and our Mayor to enact legislation to authorize fishing from the north side of Lower Shaker Lake. I have been a Cleveland Heights resident and supporter for more than forty years. My wife, children, and I have enjoyed the beauty of Lower Shaker Lake and regularly hike along its surrounding trails. I applaud the ongoing work to rebuild the dam at the west end of the lake and the effort to restore the natural beauty of the lake with native plants. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources has agreed to assist our revitalization and restoration of the lake and create significant recreational opportunities by stocking the lake with fish native to Ohio at no cost to the City. This will enhance wildlife habitat, attract more numerous and diverse birds and bird watchers, and enable more of our citizens, both young and old, to enjoy this natural treasure through fishing. As a long time, active member of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History Trout Club, I have seen firsthand the benefits from fishing. I have served as a volunteer-instructor for days of fishing by disabled veterans through the Wounded Warriors Project. I have worked with young people to introduce them to the simple joy of fishing and watched their excitement as they reel in a first catch. We have the opportunity to restore Lower Shaker Lake to the natural glory it reflected for many decades. All that ODNR needs is a vote from Council and the Mayor's signature to officially permit fishing from the north side of the lake. This is a project that everyone should support. Please take the necessary action, and keep the progress moving. Every Heights resident will thank you for support.

68 Name Erika Gifford**Public Comment** Please give us fish in the shaker lakes

69 Name Jeanne Somers

Public Comment I live on Shaker Blvd and walk around Shaker Lakes every day. I strongly support The introduction of beneficial species to the Lower Lake and to allowing fishing at the Lower Lake.

70 Name Alan Rocke

Public Comment It makes absolutely no sense to retain CH ban on fishing on Shaker Lakes, thus preventing stocking of native fish. What are you guys thinking?

71 Name Jeremy Bass

Public Comment I walk around Lower Shaker Lake several times a week. Except during the most intense leaf-blowing/mowing operations on the neighboring lawns, I find it to be a wonderfully calming and invigorating place. I moved to this part of the Heights in September, and have since come to rely on the Shaker Lakes and the adjacent trails for solace. This evening, I was surprised to see the lower lake drained, and to encounter several signs that propose a scheme to stock the lake with native fish species. The claim is that these species would eventually rid the lake of invasive carp, and obviate the need to drain the water. This plan seems utterly sensible, and probably necessary to stabilize a currently precarious ecosystem. Moreover, the state has offered to stock the lake with these species. If, as claimed on the signs, the only obstacle is a lack of official permission for fishing on the Cleveland Heights side (while there seems already to be de facto permission for this practice), then I say: please permit fishing so that the plan can go forward. This is clearly in the interest of the community.

72 Name

Em godwin

Public Commentopen up fishing!

73 Name

Louise Freilich

**Public
Comment**

As someone who lives near Lower Lake and walks there regularly, I want to make sure that native wildlife thrive there. If Cleveland Heights allows fishing on its side of the lake, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources will stock the lake with appropriate native species. Shaker Heights allows fishing on their side of the lake and fishing already happens sometimes on the CH side. Please change the CH regulation so that ODNR will be able to stock the lake and we will be able to enjoy a healthy lake with lots of birds, ducks, turtles, etc. Cleveland Heights is the only Lower Lake partner standing in the way of having a healthy lake.

74 Name

Andrew Nash

**Public
Comment**

Shaker Lakes needs to have native wildlife, not invasive species, introduced ASAP. In today's age of ecological understanding, and an offer from the state to do it for free, there's no excuse to do anything different. Unless you're just looking to line your own pockets, somehow. Do the right thing. It's wild that citizens have to beg like this for something so easy and obvious. Get it together and stop blocking the introduction of native species to Shaker Lakes.

75 Name Jordan Fiegl

**Public
Comment**

Responding to the proposed stocking of fish in Shaker Lakes: I see this as a unique opportunity to restore a natural balance in the lake. There has been tremendous harm done across the United States, but particularly in the Great Lakes area, by invasive species (reference: "The Death and Life of the Great Lakes" by Dan Egan). With the drainage of the Lakes for repairs, the invasive Carp are at a low point, and stand to be outcompeted by native species if stocked by Ohio DNR.

I am a daily dog walker at Shaker Lakes, and I have never been bothered by anyone who is fishing on the Shaker side of the lake. I have no reason to suspect I will be bothered by fishing on the Cleveland Heights side of the lake. This is an opportunity for a small victory in conservation. The mission of the nature center is as follows: "The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes conserves a natural area, connects people with nature and inspires environmental stewardship." I would much prefer visitors to the Lakes learn and understand the natural occupants of freshwater in Ohio, rather than invasive species.

I implore the city council to allow fishing on the Cleveland Heights side of the lake, thereby allowing for the reintroduction of native fish species. What a wonderful opportunity this is to see the shifts that occur when a known habitat destructor (carp) are minimalized in this body of water, while also providing a new opportunity for citizens in the Cleveland area to experience the outdoors. Thank you for the consideration of this issue.

76 Name Michael Knoblauch

**Public
Comment**

Allow fishing on Lower Shaker Lake so the state will stock the lake with native fish.

77 Name Cristine Rom

Public Comment Make Cleveland Heights more family friendly! And what could be more family-friendly than fishing. Permitting fishing on the Cleveland Heights shore of the lower Shaker Heights would be such a gift to our community. Please agree to allow for fishing, as Shaker heights has already agreed to do, so that the ODNR can stock the lake with native fish.

This should be such an easy decision to make to work with our neighbor Shaker Heights for the enjoyment of our local community, and I hope that the Council will agree to permit fishing.

78 Name Brian Tighe

Public Comment Our company, Cleveland Fishing Co., would be happy to be a resource at your disposal for any questions you might have on stocking of Shaker lakes. We love the idea of bringing fishing access to more people in the area

79 Name Terence Gutsell

Public Comment I am writing regarding lower shaker lake. It is currently drained for work on the old decrepit dam. I understand that the lake could

be stocked with native fish which would be of great benefit to the ecosystem of the lake as a whole. Further, I understand that Cleveland Heights is standing in the way of getting grants for stocking the lake because you don't want to have fishing on the Cleveland Heights side of the lake which unfortunately will prevent the obtaining of the grant funds!!! Interestingly Shaker Heights already allows for fishing on the Shaker side (and I have NEVER seen a fisherman fishing in the years I've walked the perimeter of the lake) and thus they are not an impediment to obtaining the grant funds. So, I am strongly asking you to allow fishing from Cleveland Heights so that the lake can be stocked with native fish with grant funds that would be available. I am sure that I am speaking for many others with this request.

80 Name Hadeel Khrais

Public Comment Allow fishing in lower shaker heights lake because we want our lake back

81 Name Samantha Macke

Public Comment I believe fishing should be allowed at Shaker Heights so the ODNR stocks it. Also, what a great pastime!

82 Name Steven Houser

Public Comment I thoroughly back the idea to refill the lake and introduce natural game fish. Fishing SHOULD be allowed and would be a boon to our community. Please allow fishing!!
27 year CH Citizen, close to the lake

83 Name Joan Mallick

Public Comment Please allow fishing in the Lower Shaker Lake so that it can be restocked with native fish by the Ohio Department of Natural Resourcex.

84 Name Chris Wood

Public Comment I am opposed to fishing in the lake but I am for restocking the lake with native species. Can't we do both? How much would it cost? Can't we start thinking about paying for it ourselves? Fishing itself disrupts wildlife and brings more cars/parking

85 Name John Protasiewicz

Public Comment As an avid fisherman, I think it's always great to have more fishing spaces available for everyone. But I think open fishing around this particular urban small lake risks it being overrun with extra litter and trampling around the shoreline, as well as the added disruption of the waterfowl. A compromise might be to

allow only those only under 16 (or some other age under 18) in the presence of parents/guardians so they could learn how to fish .

86 Name Dan Crissman

Public Comment I walk around Lower Shaker Lake at least twice a week, and I'm concerned about its long term health, especially after the current draining. To restore the natural habitat and ensure biodiversity in the future, I hope you'll consider opening up fishing on the Cleveland Heights side so the lake can be stocked with native species.

87 Name Gay Eyerman

Public Comment We walk around the lower lake in Shaker on a regular basis. We see the need to restore wildlife there, and that begins with healthy fish. Please consider how bringing fish stock to the lower lake and allowing fishing would create a positive effect on our community! I can't see any downsides, but so many positives. We need simple activities for families like this in our area. Keep people in the heights by making it a compelling place to live, with healthy nature and wildlife nearby.

88 Name Angelisa Crognale

Public Comment I believe CLE Hts should allow fishing and kayaking on Shaker Lake.

89 Name Alexander Polley

Public Comment It would be very beneficial to allow public fishing on the Cleveland Heights side. I do not see the issue with allowing folks to fish, especially if that lake will be stocked with fish. Fishing is a great way for the whole family to be introduced to the outdoors and to have some fun. That's surely how I started, at a small local pond that was close to me. It is a great way for kids to experience fun without a computer screen. Think of the smiles you would be able to create when kids can pull out their first fish! Those memories would be stored forever in that kid's brain. I would appreciate the opportunity for all to fish at lower shaker lake!

90 Name Joseph Schiel

Public Comment I believe you should allow fish stocking and promote active participation in the fishing sports by youth in the city. It is a great start to a young, scientific mind and a great place to relax for all. Introducing a native population will allow the area to become more sustainable and enjoyable. It will also benefit all wildlife in the area, such as bald eagles. Thanks.

91 Name

Carrie Vollentine

Public Comment

Allow fishing in Shaker Lakes.

92 Name

Ian Konopinski

**Public
Comment**

I request that the City officially opens up fishing, so that ODNR can restock Lower Shaker Lake with native fish species to restore a healthy, happy habitat for many other creatures to thrive. Thank you for your time.

93 Name

Diana Woodbridge

**Public
Comment**

From Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC) Cleveland Heights Housing Team

- Our GCC Cleveland Heights Housing Team came together in 2016 to respond to members concerns about blighted properties that were negatively impacting housing values in Cleveland Heights. The Team narrowed its focus to the Noble Neighborhood, an area still struggling to recover from 2007-8 foreclosure crisis.

- Today's housing issues are complex. Over the past 5 years we have advocated for new approaches and targeted focus on blighted properties, especially those that are investor or bank-owned and vacant and/or substantially tax delinquent; i.e. the worst of the worst. We have called for sufficient staffing of our Housing Department and for Law Department involvement as part of a problem property team to address the worst blight. To-date there has been little progress in any of these areas.

- Over the last year, we have written Council on six separate occasions to reiterate these concerns and to ask for discussion of the Novak Report. The recommendations in that Report offer an excellent starting point to consider how our City might proactively address the complex housing issues that confront our community. To date there has been no such discussion.

- In our most recent letter, March 6, 2021, we included an update to our 2019 Report of blighted, investor-owned, tax delinquent properties as a way to underscore the need for action. Yet, despite that the update found 8 of the initial 17 blighted properties still owned by the same investor and still tax delinquent, there was NO reaction, expression of concern or question from any member of Council – and NO response from Council as a body, despite our request for a commitment to when Council would consider the Novak Report recommendations. We find this unacceptable.

- So tonight we ask again – publicly – for your commitment to housing as a top priority; and specifically that you set and announce a date yet this month to begin consideration of the Novak Report and recommendations from Staff as they address the concerns we have brought to your attention over the past 5 years. As we have said previously, we stand ready to support this essential work in any way we can.

94 Name Bill Prendergast

Public Comment Please approve the motion to allow fishing in the Shaker Lakes.
We have an opportunity as a community to restore the native fish to these beautiful lakes... at no cost to our community... why would we not want this?

95 Name Jim Jenkins

Public Comment Please allow fishing in Lower Shaker Lake!! Be inclusive!!

96 Name Karen Kane

Public Comment I'm in favor of restoring the lower Shaker Lake. I don't fish for recreation but I am not opposed to it. If allowing fishing will help to bring the lower lake back to life then I'm for it. Two reasons I chose to live in my neighborhood were proximity to the Nature Center and the lakes. I frequently walk around the lakes and have been disheartened to see the current lifeless mudflat it's become. Allow fishing. Thank you.

Name**Public
Comment**

My name is Krista Hawthorne and I'm the Executive Director of Reaching Heights, a local non-profit that works to connect the community to our public schools with information and events.

Beginning April 12th, all elementary school students will attend school 5 days a week in-person or remain fully remote. The middle school and high school students can attend 5 days in-person, hybrid, or fully remote. Certain student groups, such as career tech, students with low-incidence disabilities, and Options Center students will begin attending 5 days in person tomorrow.

Unfortunately, the Ohio Department of Education is requiring that Ohio State Tests must be completed in-person and the results will be used to determine the district's EdChoice status in school year 2023-24. Students opting-out of testing will cause lower scores for the district which could increase the already enormous drain of funds away from our public schools to private and parochial schools.

Superintendent Elizabeth Kirby will deliver the State of our Schools Address on Thursday, April 15 at 7:00 p.m. live on the District's YouTube channel. The event will feature exciting strategic plan updates and District happenings, as well as student speakers and musical performances. The entire Heights community is invited to watch.

Also, please attend the Kindergarten Information Nights online or in-person at each of the CH-UH elementary schools during the last 2 weeks of April. Even if you don't have a kindergartner starting this year, you can log-on or come visit to learn more about our elementary schools.

One important experience that was missed due to schools operating remotely was the introduction of 8th grade musicians to the high school musicians. So, the middle school and high school orchestras rehearsed together and then performed individually to create an extraordinary combined performance. It can be viewed on the CHUH district YouTube channel at [youtube.com CH-UH Schools](https://youtube.com/CH-UH_Schools).

The Board of Education's Lay Finance Committee voted to not recommend a Performance Audit by the Ohio Department of Education. This decision was based on the limited information that would be gathered from a simple comparison of school district expenses to four other districts considered somewhat similar to the CHUH School District. School Board Member Jodi Sourini interviewed administrators of the Talawanda School District in SW Ohio that had recently completed a performance audit. She said they felt that the audit

was not worth the \$60,000 they spent on it, that it was like a race to the bottom, and that there was no consideration of how the recommended cuts would impact the quality of education. Ryan Routh, Chair of the Lay Finance Committee added, "After reviewing the recommendations from various performance audits of other Districts, the Committee found that these audits are primarily done for Districts that are in financial distress and absolutely must make cuts; accordingly, these audits do not attempt to weigh the possible harms from the cuts against benefits. As such, the Committee did not feel it would provide CHUH with information that would be helpful to it."

98 Name Peggy Spaeth and John Barber

**Public
Comment**

Lower Lake park is owned by the City of Cleveland, and leased to Shaker Heights and Cleveland Heights in a division bisecting the the lake on its east-west axis.

Fishing has never been allowed at Lower Lake until the 2020 Shaker Parklands Committee review and update to the 2013 "Land Management and Land Use Plan for the Shaker Parklands."

Shaker Heights' representative asked the Committee to approve the document with the following change: "Shaker Heights does not prohibit fishing on the south side of Lower Lake, pending a public use planning process."

This language allows fishing in Shaker Heights on the South Park side of the lake for an indeterminate period. Cleveland Heights representatives maintained a no fishing policy on the North Park side of the lake. A tale of two cities, one lake.

We are residents of Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights, Cleveland, and University Heights entering our fourth year of habitat restoration and trail improvement at Lower Lake park as volunteers who have also raised funds for native plants and tree cages.

We support Cleveland Heights' position for both ecological and human safety reasons:

•There are already several nearby sites for fishing with posted rules for safety.

- 3.1 miles Rockefeller Lagoon (stocked)
 - 3.4 miles Forest Hill Park (East Cleveland pond, stocked)
 - 5.3 miles Acacia Reservation (Metroparks-2 ponds)
-

- 6.6 miles Gordon Park, E.72nd Street (Metroparks)
 - With fishing permitted parking will be an issue. The neighbors have not been involved in any decision-making to permit or not permit fishing.
 - The site is an Audubon Important Bird Area. Fishing is incompatible with the safety of migrating and resident birds. Several species nesting along the edge of the lake are at grave risk of entanglement and death from abandoned fishing gear which we have found in abundance.
 - Public safety is a big concern. The 1897 bridge on the dam is too narrow to safely accommodate anglers with the constant pedestrians, joggers, bicyclists, dogs, and baby strollers. This past summer careless anglers caused first a dog, and then the dog's owner, to become impaled on a hook. EMS had to transport the resident to the emergency room for removal of the hook.
 - The fish are common carp, goldfish, and green sunfish. The dominant common carp were imported in the mid-1880s as a food fish. Consumers did not like them, and in ponds throughout the US they have outcompeted native fish. Carp are bottom feeders, creating and maintaining a heavily silted lake. Replacement of common carp with native fish is not a one and done solution for healthy habitat.
- Lastly, this issue has been propagated by an Anonymous Angler posting signs throughout the park. To our knowledge, this issue never reached the level of Shaker Heights Council and we wonder why it is in the lap of Cleveland Heights Council and residents alone. We should be working together for a common parklands policy.

98 Name Catalina Maddox-Wagers

Public Comment Fishing in a small lake like the Lower Lakes represents a hazard and a threat to the fragile eco-system already under a lot of stressed. Broken fishing lines getting caught in wildlife's body parts, forgotten lures that end up in wildlife's stomachs, trampling over plants, disturbing fowls nests and living habitat, left over trash, are just a few of the issues related to fishing. There are two kind of fishermen: the ones who care about their environment and know what they are doing, and the other ones (which is most of the people who would fish at the Lower Lakes) who are careless

and lack of the knowledge required to use best angler practices.

Allowing fishing in the Lower Lakes is not a good idea.
The cons outweigh the pros 10 times fold.

99 Name Maryann Posch

Public Comment I am opposed to fishing in the Lower Shaker Lake because there are ample opportunities for fishing at many nearby locations. This lake and the surrounding land are an important ecological preserve that is home, and vital stopover for many birds and animals. There are no attractive game fish in the lake and the inevitable abandoned fishing gear will definitely be very detrimental to all wildlife and to any people visiting the lake.

100 Name John Gulyas

Public Comment I oppose fishing at the Lower Lake. There are plenty of other places to fish. I thought this lake was a preserve, I do not want to encounter fishing lines or hooks at the park. I also know that fishing lines are dangerous to water birds. Many people visit the lake to enjoy nature not witness people pulling live fish out of the lake to kill them.

Public Comment Good evening, Mayor Stein, City Council, and members of the administration. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Ordinance 25-2021.

I am submitting comments on behalf of the Akron Cleveland Association of Realtors (ACAR). Our office is located at 9100 South Hills Blvd, #150, Broadview Heights. We have more than 6,200 real estate professional members throughout Cuyahoga, Summit, & Portage Counties, including many that live and work in Cleveland Heights.

First, let me acknowledge that ACAR recognizes how important access to affordable housing is. When we talk about source of income as a protected class, the focus is generally on participation in the housing choice voucher (HCV) program.

ACAR agrees; programs like the HCV program are valuable and a much-needed resource. However, our organization does not believe local governments should mandate participation in a voluntary federal program. Instead, let us focus efforts on improving the program to encourage more participation by housing providers. We hear time and time again, it is not the tenant or the check/payment, but rather the strings, or red tape, that are a deterrent to participation.

A 2018 study in the Housing Policy Debate journal found that non-participation in HCV is often based on experience. In fact, the study, which included Cleveland, found that 68% of housing providers that did not participate previously did accept vouchers. However, they abandoned the program when it seemed as if the local housing authority did not fully understand the needs of the housing provider, leaving them with sense of one-sidedness and complete disregard.

Again, rather than mandating participation in a voluntary federal program, let us direct efforts to focus on addressing disincentives to participate, or even incentivize participation in

your city. We are seemingly in one of the most regulated areas of the state and there must be solution that could satisfy all parties and help make northeast Ohio home for all. Please know that ACAR stands ready to assist the City with the development of incentives and is your resource on all real estate related matters impacting property rights and more.

102 Name Tristan Wright

Public Comment I saw a flier on fishing in Cleveland Heights. I ask council members to oppose this. This will ruin the city's natural lakes for the recreation of the few. Hooks and fishing wire will cake the lakebed and shores. Dogs and children will get cut by hooks left behind. Native fish will be eaten away by invasive.

103 Name Meg Hennessey

Public Comment I have seen a flier advocating for fishing at Lower Shaker Lake- I DO NOT support having fishing here. It is a heavily used park, we walk there often, and fishing line is a common piece of litter. It gets tangled around our feet, is very hard to see, and we step on the hooks- our dog has even had to receive medical attention due to stepping on a fish hook. I think with so many small children and dog walkers we don't need to add more fisherman with poles to this park. No matter how careful they are, some hooks and line will get lost and it can be very dangerous.
Moreover, fish in the lake will eat salamander and

amphibian eggs, preventing their populations from increasing. Salamanders and amphibians eat mosquito larvae, and are endangered near us. With so many other bodies of water available nearby for fishing, I don't see why it needs to be here at Lower Shaker Lake as well. I feel very strongly about this and will follow up with my city council.

104 Name Emma Shook

**Public
Comment**

As a 20-year Heights resident, I urge you to disregard the strange attempts to allow fishing in Lower Shaker Lake. The statements made by the person who has been leaving fliers around the lake don't make any sense. Fishing would NOT bring back native species and enhance the wildlife around the lake. It would do the opposite. Since people have started fishing on the Shaker side (the south side) of the lake, there have been lead sinkers, fishing line and hooks found on the perimeter of the lake. Ospreys and Bald Eagles fish here in the summer. Green herons nested last year in the brush on the south edge of the lake. Lower Lake is an important bird migration stopover. Remember the pie-billed grebes and common loons last spring? They dive for fish.

The ecosystem could use some common sense. Fishing, which creates erosion, trampling of wild plants, and loss of bird cover, hasn't been allowed in the history of the lake until now, and it should end on the Shaker Side.

Please don't give in to this one loud voice who wants to create harm to wildlife, while saying the opposite.

105 Name Diane Hallum

**Public
Comment**

I thought I would share some notes on city investments in the Noble Road area and those to Taylor Road.

A search of the city's web site using Taylor Road pulls up: \$512,000 Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit for historic Taylor-Superior Road District. At urging of Jason Stein (92-2018 (PD)) with update in 2019 Council Priorities.

12-2018 (PD): \$10,000 Economic Development Loan to Mr. Brisket.

95-2017 (PD): \$10,000 Economic Development Loan to evo DOMUS.

\$139,000 (2018 SIO) request from city staff for area between Euclid Hts. Blvd and Berkely and Taylor Road.

\$77,195 (2019 SIO) for \$77,195 for same area.

60-2015 (F): \$120,000 renovate 2140 S. Taylor Road.

\$10,000 CDBG to Cedar Taylor Development Association (2020 CDBG)

Cain Park Village Trailway Study: \$20,000 (2020 SIO)

Bicyclists in the city and NOACA worked with Cleveland Heights and University Heights on a 2018 Taylor Road Corridor study, finalized in January 2021 per 2020 report. Have the \$\$ info somewhere in my records, but could not find it quickly.

Rough total the City has extended to the Taylor Road area: \$898,195 in funds directed to Taylor Road going back to 2015.

A search for the same related to Noble, turns up no Economic Development Loans, no CDBG or SIO grants, and no city-funded planning.

In Council's 2017, Noble was top of the list!

Council Planned to:

- Research a CRA for Noble Road. Only happened because created city-wide CRAs, but lowered benefits for Noble area.
 - Market city loan programs in the area for redevelopment – not done.
 - Review all CDBG funds allocated to area – None had been
-

allocated.

- City was to use its Strategic Opportunity Impact funds in Noble Road area.

What happened? See the \$139,000 2018 SIO above for the Taylor Road area.

The city provided no funds, grants, etc. for the Noble Corridor plan – paid for by U.S. Bank via FutureHeights and focused solely on Mayfield Road intersection at Warrensville and Noble – in an area the city had told FH it would not move city services housed there.

The city updated Caledonia Park and renamed it Barbara Boyd Park, a park inside East Cleveland. 2018 Allocated \$100,000 for this project.

Rough Total for Noble: \$100,000

106 Name Victoria Mills

Public Comment Doan Brook Watershed Partnership held three meetings in 2020 specifically to consider an active public fishing program at Lower Lake. We invited fish biologists and recreational fishing experts from the Department of Natural Resources and the Cleveland Metroparks. Pros include a new recreational activity for the community that connects them to local natural resources and a funding source (the State of Ohio) for stockings. The cons included:

- An increase of fishing waste/litter along the shores, tangled in trees, and in the waterway, which continues through the three communities to Lake Erie.
- A public health hazard posed by fishing litter, most importantly the hooks that have already cut the mouths of dogs and the hands of humans that visit Lower Lake.
- No fishing pier or dock to distance casting from people visiting the shore of the lake.
- Very limited open (unvegetated) shoreline from which to fish, with almost none on the Cleveland Hts. side.
- A threat to birds and birders that continue to celebrate Lower Lake's Audubon designation as an official Important Bird Area in Ohio.
- If fishing stocking were permitted, Lower Lake would automatically be added as a destination to a map that's issued across Ohio. This has the

potential to shift this small park from a local amenity to a more crowded amenity, without an increase in funding for parking, facilities, maintenance etc. and without engaging in a wider public input process.

- An interest in delaying formal fishing activities until the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer completes a stormwater master plan for the future of Lower Lake. Included in this study, will be a public input process for residents of Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights.
- Lower Lake is very shallow. The addition of hot summers and nutrient runoff from lawns, can create eutrophic conditions (low aquatic oxygen levels).
- Fishing programs require management. Neither City has staff capacity or budget to manage a fishing program.
- No imperative need because there are several nearby fishing destinations (without vegetated shorelines exist in Forest Hills Park and Rockefeller Park. All of DBWP's recent stream restoration projects have restored habitat for native fish populations. We are also keenly aware that North American bird populations have dropped by a third in the last fifty years. Introducing farm-raised fish to a manmade lake without considering impacts to wild bird populations is short-sighted. A campaign to promote fishing without engaging in a forum that encourages the exchange of facts and ideas is short-sighted. Each quarter, DBWP hosts a Parklands Management Committee meeting with volunteers, agencies and organizations. We discuss park management, science and restoration. The public can bring ideas to the committee for consideration; in fact, several citizen science projects that bring great benefit to our community started through PMC process. Many of the concepts found in the anonymous posting are not factual, but we look forward to opportunities to share information on the current conditions at Lower Lake. The public is invited to send comments to info@doanbrookpartnership.org.

107 Name

Michael Morse

Public Comment

I think fishing is not appropriate in the Shaker Lakes.
