

RESOLUTION 011210

Proclaiming April as Fair Housing Month and April 20, 2001 Fair Housing Day in Cuyahoga County.

WHEREAS, an important goal of our government is to eliminate housing discrimination and assure the rights of every citizen to buy, rent and sell housing without regard to race, color, sex, religion, familial status, national origin or handicap, as guaranteed both by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 as amended, and the laws of the State of Ohio, and

WHEREAS, the policy and intent of Cuyahoga County Board of Commissioners in favor of Fair and Equal Opportunity in Housing in the County was declared in its resolution #931337 dated April 5, 1979, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners, and Cuyahoga County, Ohio, unanimously and consistently passed resolution #605318 which urged every local government to “work cooperatively in affirmatively furthering fair housing,” and lent its full support to “the prosecution of any acts of racial intimidation, harassment or violence and affirmed the civil rights of every homeseeker and resident of Cuyahoga County,” and

WHEREAS, recent studies have documented the continued incidence of discrimination in this county's housing market and the existence of segregated communities and school districts.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners and the County has united with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, the Greater Cleveland Round Table, and the Federal Reserve Bank to sponsor the Residential Mortgage Project, whose mission is to eliminate discrimination in the home buying process, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners and Cuyahoga County, Ohio, have taken the lead in bringing together the Cuyahoga County Entitlement Group of: Cuyahoga Urban County, City of Cleveland, City of Cleveland Heights, City of East Cleveland, City of Euclid, City of Lakewood and the City of Parma to undertake and collaborate on an Analysis of Impediment to Fair Housing Choice, a first in Ohio, and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Entitlement Group, with the assistance of its Consultant, the Cuyahoga Plan, of Ohio, Inc., continues to work as a team, and has created an Action Plan for the elimination of the identified impediments in housing discrimination, and was a recipient of a 1999 “Best Practice” award for its efforts, and

WHEREAS, there exist areas in this County which are integrating successfully and which are in need of support to assure their continued existence as racially diverse communities, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners have contracted with the National Conference of Community and Justice to open the awareness of our 46 Municipalities to the process of dialogue, and

WHEREAS as, Predatory lending has permeated our area causing many to lose their homes through Mortgage foreclosure, and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners passed a Resolution on October 10, 2000, Proclaiming Predatory Lending in Mortgage Loan Markets an Urgent and Serious Threat, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Development is creating an educational and policyy to approach the issues of Predatory Lending, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners reaffirms its commitment to open housing and equal housing opportunity for all citizens in the County, and hereby indicates its commitment by declaring April as National Fair Housing Month, and Friday, April 20, 2001 as Fair Housing Day in Cuyahoga County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that every agency of local government join the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners in lending its support of the prosecution of any acts of racial intimidation, harassment or violence; and affirmation of the civil rights of every homeseeker and resident of Cuyahoga County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners and Cuyahoga County, Ohio, urge every local government to work cooperatively in affirmatively furthering fair housing as called for by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, and the 1988 Fair Housing Amendments Act as passed on March 12, 1989, and request that each county municipality, village and township pass a resolution supporting Fair Housing Month.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board be, and she is, hereby instructed to transmit one copy of this resolution to Steven Sims, Director, Department of Development with instructions to transmit one copy to each of the mayors of the municipalities, villages and townships within the Cuyahoga County; and one copy to Mary Davis, Cuyahoga County Fair Housing Officer.

On Motion of Commissioner McCormack, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Ayes: McCormack, Campbell, Dimora.

Nays: None.

Resolution Adopted.

Marjorie J. Pettus
Clerk of the Board

Journal 270
April 10, 2001
011210
ee