

Contact: Peter Osborne
513-546-4181
peter.osborne@keypointpr.com

April 17, 2025

News Release: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS TAKES FIRST ACTION ON GREAT PARKS LEVY RENEWAL

Today, the Board of Park Commissioners for Great Parks unanimously approved a resolution requesting the Hamilton County auditor to certify the current valuation of taxes - essentially the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by a renewal of the 2017-2026 1-mill levy. This is the first step the Board must take before deciding to place a renewal levy on the November 4, 2025, general election ballot.

The intent of a renewal levy is to not increase taxes while continuing the current level of local support that ensures the protection of natural spaces, upkeep of trails and parks, and community access to outdoor education and recreation programs.

“Great Parks of Hamilton County is committed to preserving our community’s natural treasures while providing exceptional, low-cost outdoor experiences to everyone,” said Chief Executive Officer Todd Palmeter. “This levy renewal would ensure that we can continue to maintain clean, safe and accessible parks and conservation areas for all Hamilton County residents—without raising taxes.”

In 2016, Hamilton County voters approved a 1-mill levy for the period of 2017-2026 that provides ongoing funding support for operating the park district. This levy also provides funding for capital projects and allows Great Parks to continue operating park activities, services and programs while maintaining consistent staffing levels. It is separate from the 0.95-mill levy approved by voters in 2021 for the period of 2022-2031. The 2022-2031 levy supports critical infrastructure needs and park and facility master plan priorities and leverages private, state and federal funds to maximize the effectiveness of levy generated funds.

Great Parks is a political subdivision of the State of Ohio, governed by a Board of Park Commissioners. All commissioners with the Great Parks Board of Park Commissioners are appointed by Hamilton County Probate Court Judge Ralph Winkler.

The voter registration deadline for the November 4th general election is October 6, 2025, and early and absentee voting begins October 7, 2025.

(Note to editors: Pictures available via [this Dropbox link](#).)

#

Board of Park Commissioners

William Burwinkel • Caren Laverty • Scott Schuster • Marcus Thompson • Melissa Wegman • Todd Palmeter, CEO
10245 Winton Road • Cincinnati, OH 45231 • greatparks.org