

Saving our LAND WATER HERITAGE

SAMPLE Municipality Resolution in Support of the Land Preservation Referendum for April 3, 2007

WHEREAS, agriculture and natural areas are integral to local water supplies, the economy and quality of life in Washington County; and

WHEREAS, the opportunity to preserve local prime farmland and natural areas diminishes with each passing year, causing the issue to be of immediate concern; and

WHEREAS, in January 2007 the Washington County Board adopted an ordinance creating a "Land Preservation Program" and segregated funding for it for 10 years, subject to approval by the general public by binding referendum this April 3, 2007, and

WHEREAS, the term land preservation is used because a Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program would be closely coordinated with the adopted County Park & Open Space Plan. PDR is a farmland preservation tool where the County would buy the development rights from willing landowners and record a permanent Land Preservation Easement on the property deed, and

WHEREAS, Purchase of Development Rights Programs have been successful in many other states at preserving farmland and natural areas;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Board of _____ urges it citizens to make every effort to study and learn about Purchase of Development Rights Programs realizing that Land Preservation preserves water resources, local quality of life, protects property values and is good for the local economy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the _____ Board of _____ supports the preservation of prime farmland and natural areas for Washington County and urges _____ residents to vote yes on the April 3, 2007 Land Preservation Referendum.

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2007.

IT'S RIGHT FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY

Paid for by Washington County Citizens for Farmland & Natural Areas, William Neureuther, Treasurer