

FROM THE OFFICE OF AKRON CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT MARGO SOMMERVILLE

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Joan M. Williams, Chief of Staff to President, Akron City Council Email: jwilliams@akronohio.gov Phone: 330-375-2258

Akron City Council Returns to Virtual Council & Committee Meetings

Akron, Ohio, September 2, 2021 — After receiving updated COVID 19 data from Summit County Public Health, Akron City Council is resuming virtual Council and committee meetings when sessions resume on Monday, September 13, 2021.

According to Summit County Health, based on the CDC data tracker, the 7-day case total was 120 cases per 100,000 residents during the CDC reporting period (Aug 16th – Aug 22th). The CDC Community Transmission Level in Summit County remains at **HIGH**, and the CDC Area of Concern Category for Summit County changed to **SUSTAINED HOTSPOT**.

"We want to do our part in modeling COVID mitigation strategies and ensuring the health and wellbeing of council members, the administration, and the residents of Akron," said Akron City Council President Margo Sommerville. She went on to say, "We have been proactive in making the necessary legislative changes to continue to serve and conduct business in the current environment. So out of an abundance of caution, we are going to resume meeting virtually."

Pursuant to Section 141 of the Akron City Charter and Rule 1.4 of the Rules of Procedure for the Akron City Council, council meetings will be conducted remotely, using videoconference technology. There will be no physical access for members of the public or press. Real-time access to the meetings will be provided through a livestream of the videoconference on YouTube which can be accessed through our website: www.akroncitycouncil.org.

Those that wish to appear in Council Chambers for the public hearings already scheduled to take place on September 13th may do so. A staff member will be available to assist. Those that wish to participate in the September 13th public hearings via videoconference should contact the Clerk's Office at 330-375-2256 or sbiviano@akronohio.gov.

Commencing September 20th, the Council and Committee Meetings, and Public Hearings will be completely virtual.

Those that wish to participate in the Public Comment Period should fill out a <u>Public Comment Form</u>, and submit to <u>publiccomment@akronohio.gov</u> by 4:30 p.m. on the date of the Council Meeting to receive information to join the meeting virtually for the purpose of providing public comment.