

Statement of Position on Redistricting Plan Bath Township

- First and foremost create compact, contiguous districts in accordance with the Summit County Charter **“giving preference in the order named to townships, municipalities and city wards and precincts”** per the Charter of Summit County, Article III, Section 3.01.4 Apportionment.
- The redistricting requirement, **not caused by an increase in the population of Bath Township**, will create hardship for the residents of Bath Township.
- Do not split the representation of any township in the county since Ohio Revised Code requires County Government to provide fiscal services, planning services, emergency management services, county road maintenance, and storm water assistance.
- Create districts with a commonality of interest in view of the fact that we share fire, police, radio systems, and other services with the communities to the north and south of Bath Township.
- Bath Township should be represented by one district councilperson since the township has commonality of issues across the township that we do not share with cities. Issues of road maintenance, storm water management, emergency management, and planning are common across the township.
- Township Government under Ohio Law are subdivisions of the county and rely on the governance of County Council for many services, home rule governance, and many of the day to day ordinances that protect our community.
- The emergency form of legislation pending in front of County Council will not allow the citizens of Summit County to referendum Council’s decision.
- Bath Township has provided an alternative to the plan presented in front of council that allows for all townships to be whole. We look forward to presenting that plan or reviewing any plan that keeps our representation whole under one representative.

With the above in view, we request that Summit County Council amend the proposed redistricting plan and keep our township representation under one district councilperson.