

P roclamation

DEDICATING THE "BRUCE G. RINKER GREENWAY"

Whereas: Mayor Bruce G. Rinker served Mayfield Village for over 28 years, as a Council member, then as Council President, and finally as Mayor for 23 years; and

WHEREAS, for many of those years, and beginning as early as 1999, Mayor Rinker envisioned a trail system connecting the center of the Village and the residential neighborhoods on the east side of SOM Center Road to its recreational hub which, at that time, included soccer fields, softball fields, Parkview Pool and playground, and a 25-acre wetlands park. Once made, this connection would allow Village residents and visitors to reach the Metroparks North Chagrin Reservation via an underpass at SOM Center Road, one of three underpasses constructed as part of regular road and/or sewer projects during Mayor Rinker's tenure; and

WHEREAS, the trail project gained a sense of reality when Mayfield Village was awarded a TLCI grant in 2008 to develop a Greenway Trail Master Plan. Mayfield Village received \$600,000 in Transportation Enhancement funding from NOACA in 2010, which, upon request in 2012 was increased to \$866,500 and further increased in 2013 to a full 80% of the construction cost for a total grant of \$1,067,000; and

WHEREAS, in order to weave the trail through the Village's business district on Beta Drive, private property owners were asked to donate land in non-developable setback areas. After several years of negotiation, ten property owners participated in this project, donating over \$275,000 worth of property, including: Progressive Insurance, the Mayfield Board of Education, Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co., HD Beta I, LLC, Nancy A. Panzica, Panzica 731 Beta Ltd., Cuyahoga County Public Library, Ohio Dept. of Transportation, Premier Development Partners LLC and SOM Court Development; and

WHEREAS, during the years that it took to make the Greenway Trail a reality, additional destinations were constructed along its route, including the Mayfield Branch of the Cuyahoga County Library and The Grove, an outdoor amphitheater that now offers free cultural programming to the community each summer (another piece of Mayor Rinker's vision that he was able to see fruition); and

WHEREAS, future phases of this project (connecting the underpass at S.O.M. Center Road at Beechers Brook and a creating a trailhead at the south end near the Fire Station) are expected to become reality in 2017 and 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Greenway Trail opened for public use in the Fall of 2014, principally due to the longevity of Mayor Rinker's leadership, his vision of the importance of a walkable community and his unwaivering and dogged determination to see this project through to completion over a 15-year period.

NOW, THEREFORE, on this 7th day of October, 2016, I, Brenda T. Bodnar, as the Mayor of Mayfield Village, hereby proclaim that to honor the dedication of our former Mayor, the Mayfield Village Greenway Trail shall henceforth be known as "**THE BRUCE G. RINKER GREENWAY**".



Brenda T. Bodnar, Mayor
Mayfield Village, Ohio