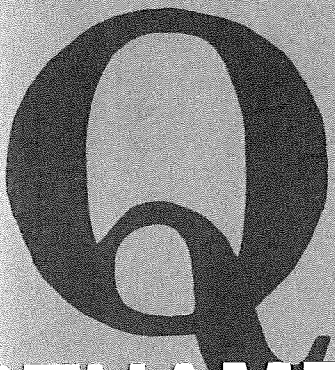
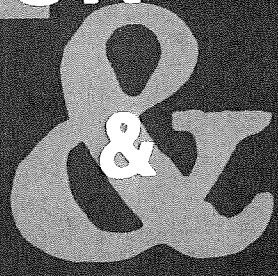


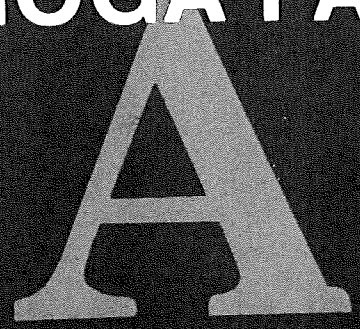
MERGER FACTS



NORTHAMPTON



CUYAHOGA FALLS



Dear Resident:

On November 6, 1984, the residents of Northampton Township and the City of Cuyahoga Falls voted to establish a Merger Commission. The Merger Commission was comprised of ten members - five from each community. Our assigned task was to investigate and report on Conditions of Merger to the citizens of both communities. Open community meetings were held on a regular basis with discussion from members of the community, news media, and public and elected officials.

The Merger Commission has approved and adopted the enclosed Conditions of Merger and submits them for your consideration. We feel each voter should review and decide this important community issue. To pass and merge the two communities, the merger must be approved by a majority of voters of **each** community. If approved, the merger will take place on January 1, 1986, and Northampton Township will then become Ward 8 in the City of Cuyahoga Falls with their own representative on City Council.

School districts **will not** be affected if the merger passes. If your child attends either the Woodridge or Cuyahoga Falls school systems, they will continue to attend their local school.

City services, including water, police, and fire, will not be diminished in any way. Any expansion of city utilities into new areas will be paid for by those petitioning for said services.

Enclosed are the following documents:

- 1) Highlights of the Conditions of Merger;
- 2) The Conditions of Merger with Commission comments;
- 3) Map of the two communities;
- 4) Projected budget for 1986;
- 5) Sample ballot; and
- 6) Proposed Cuyahoga Falls City Charter Amendment

Our Commission wishes to publicly thank Mayor Robert J. Quirk, and Township Trustees Robert Crawford, Fran Satina, and Paul Stephens for their aid and support in establishing the Commission. Also, we thank those many individuals who gave their time, talent, and skills to make this a successful effort.

The question of whether to merge Northampton Township with the City of Cuyahoga Falls is up to you, the voter, to decide. **PLEASE VOTE.**


Respectfully submitted,



TIMOTHY J. TRUBY
CHAIRMAN



MARGARET M. FENCHEL


GERALD L. PURSLEY


JOHN G. APPELDORN
VICE-CHAIRMAN


WILLIAM L. LOWE


SALLY A. RIEDE


LOUIS F. SHARPE
SECRETARY

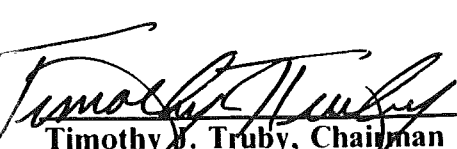


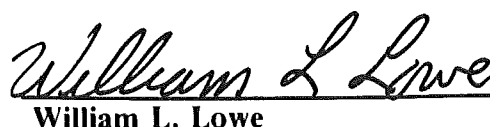
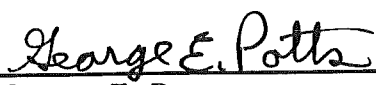

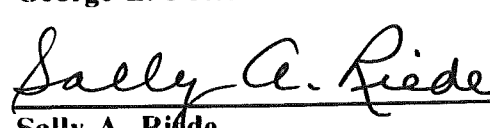
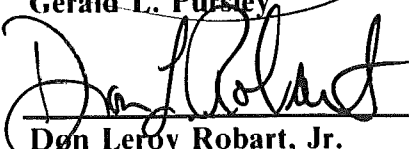
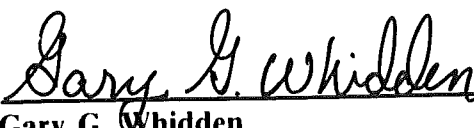


GEORGE E. POTTS


DON LEROY ROBERT, JR.


GARY G. WHIDDEN

CONDITIONS OF MERGER
PREAMBLE

The Cuyahoga Falls/Northampton Township Merger Study Commission under the authority of Chapter 709.46 of the Ohio Revised Code, hereby submits the following Conditions of Merger to the electors of the two communities. The vote on the question of whether to approve and adopt the Conditions of Merger is as follows:

 Timothy J. Truby, Chairman	7-24-85 yes	 John Appeldoorn, Vice Chairman	7-24-85 yes
 Margaret M. Fenchel	7-24-85 yes	 William L. Lowe	7/24/85 yes
 George E. Potts	7-24-85 yes	 Gerald L. Pursley	7-24-85 YES
 Sally A. Riede	7-24-85 yes	 Don Leroy Robart, Jr.	7-24-85 yes
 Gary G. Whidden	7-24-85 yes	 Louis F. Sharpe, Recording/Secretary	7-24-85 Yes

PROPOSED BALLOT LANGUAGE

Shall the "CONDITIONS OF MERGER", proposed by the Northampton/Cuyahoga Falls Merger Commission be adopted, and pursuant to those conditions, the Township of Northampton, and the City of Cuyahoga Falls merge into one community?

For the Merger

Against the Merger

HIGHLIGHTS OF CONDITIONS OF MERGER

(This outline is merely to highlight the Conditions of Merger. The actual text of the Conditions of Merger follows this outline. Please refer to it and the Commission comments for further explanation.)

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A) The merger shall be effective on January 1, 1986.
- B) The name of the joint community shall be the City of Cuyahoga Falls.
- C) School districts will not merge.

II. POLITICAL REPRESENTATION

- A) The City of Cuyahoga Falls operates under a Mayor/ City Council form of government. Northampton Township would become Ward 8, with its own political representative on City Council.

III. CODIFIED ORDINANCES

- A) Certain codified ordinances of Cuyahoga Falls will not apply to the current Northampton Township, in order to preserve and protect the rural character.

IV. PLANNING AND ZONING

- A) If your property is currently zoned commercial, industrial or residential, it will remain the same, subject to the City of Cuyahoga Falls Zoning Regulations.
- B) The rural character of Northampton will be retained.
- C) An Advisory Commission will be established, comprised of three Northampton residents.

V. PUBLIC SAFETY AND PERSONNEL

- A) All full-time Northampton Township employees will receive full-time employment with the City of Cuyahoga Falls, without any loss in pay.
- B) A full-time Fire Department will be established in Northampton Township.
- C) Police and fire protection will not be diminished.

VI. MUNICIPAL SERVICES

- A) Existing municipal services, such as water, sewer and electric will extend into new areas, only if those petitioning for said services pay for said services.
- B) Under State law, Northampton Township residents are under the jurisdiction of Akron Municipal Court. If the merger does occur, Northampton residents will then appear in Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court.

VII. TAXATION AND FINANCE

- A) The Tax and Finance Committee has concluded that there will be an anticipated net gain of \$51,187.70 in the first year budget resulting from merger.
- B) Upon merger, the city portion of your property tax in Northampton will increase from 11.65 mills to 11.95 mills. (This amounts to \$5.25 per year on property valued at \$50,000 and \$10.50 on property valued at \$100,000). Northampton residents and businesses will also be subject to a 1.5% income tax.
- C) There will be no change in either the property tax or income tax in Cuyahoga Falls resulting from merger.

VIII. CHARTER AMENDMENT AND RESOLUTION

- A) In order to appoint the full-time Northampton employees in Northampton Township to employment in the City of Cuyahoga Falls, the City Charter will have to be amended.
- B) Northampton will become Ward 8 with its own political representative on the City Council and will be represented by three Council at Large members.

CONDITIONS OF MERGER

ARTICLE I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

COMMUNITY NAME

Proposed name of the joint community to be called "Cuyahoga Falls". Throughout the course of the merger study, the joint community will be referred to as the "new city".

SCHOOLS

The proposed merger of the Township of Northampton and the City of Cuyahoga Falls, to be effective January 1, 1986, will not merge the school systems of Cuyahoga Falls and Northampton.

(State law dictates school system boundaries are in no way affected by this merger).

CODIFIED ORDINANCES

Pursuant to the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code, Section 709.47, it shall be a condition of merger that the following sections of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cuyahoga Falls shall not, on the effective date of the merger, apply in that portion of the newly formed municipality previously known as Northampton Township, until specifically acted upon by the appropriate governing body:

- Section 333.03 - MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS
- Section 351.03 - PROHIBITED PARKING OR STANDING PLACES
- Section 505.07 - BARKING OR HOWLING DOGS
- Section 505.9 - NUISANCE CONDITIONS PROHIBITED
- Section 505.11 - HUNTING PROHIBITED
- Section 505.12 - CATS RUNNING AT LARGE
- Section 527.05 - CURFEW
- Section 529.14 - DISCHARGING FIREARMS
- Section 561.01 - REMOVAL OF WEEDS BY OWNER
- Section 1333.01 - FENCING RESTRICTIONS (BARBED WIRE)
- Section 1333.03 - ELECTRIC FENCES PROHIBITED

Those rules and regulations applicable in Northampton prior to merger governing conduct comparable to that governed by the above sections, shall continue in full force and effect, in the area formerly known as Northampton Township, after merger and shall govern such conduct in that area unless and until changed by action of the appropriate governing body.

COURT SYSTEM

Upon merger, the current municipal court system of Cuyahoga Falls can continue to provide the current level and quality of services to the combined community.

(Specific financial information is contained in that report.)

CITY SERVICES

Upon merger, the quality and level of city utility services will not be impaired by the merger of the two communities. Any **requested** extension of utility services to the residents of the "new city" will be paid for by those petitioning for said services.

(As in the past, citizens will pay for utilities via assessment.)

POLITICAL REPRESENTATION

Pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 731.01(B), this resolution is a Condition of Merger and states:

1. That in the event of a merger of Northampton with the City of Cuyahoga Falls the number of members of the legislative authority of the City of Cuyahoga Falls shall be fixed at eleven (11); three (3) to be elected from the City at large and eight (8) to be elected from wards.
2. That an additional ward shall be created, in conformity with the requirements of Ohio Revised Code Section 731.06, in the area of the City previously known as "Northampton Township."
3. That the first council representative from such newly created Ward shall be appointed as provided by the Charter of the City of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio to serve for the period beginning January 1, 1986 and ending December 31, 1986. The remainder of the term beginning January 1, 1987, shall be filled by the electors of the newly created ward at the next general election immediately following the effective date of the merger of Northampton Township with the City of Cuyahoga Falls.

ARTICLE II

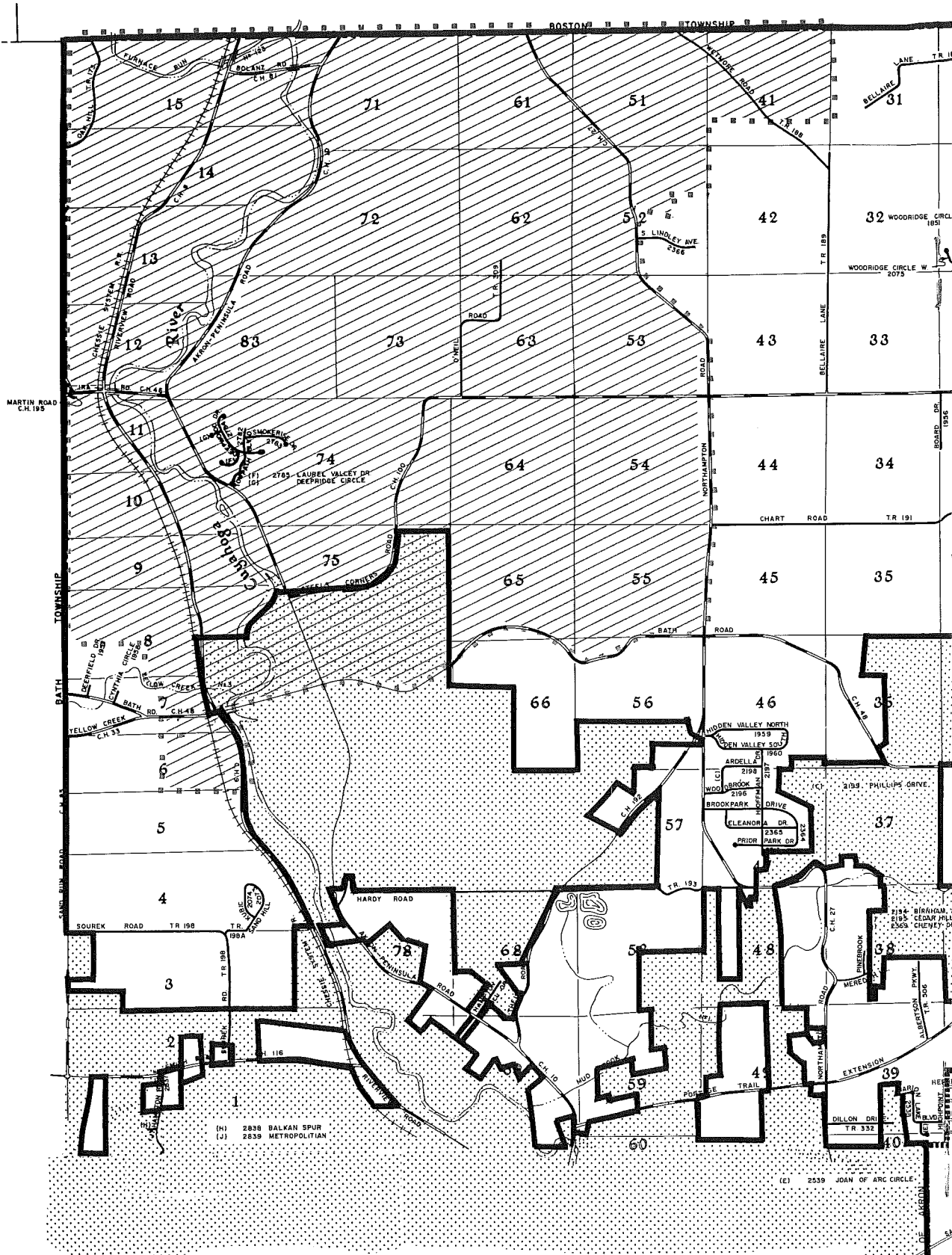
PLANNING AND ZONING




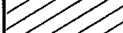
Now, hereby, be it resolved that the existing Zoning Regulations of the City of Cuyahoga Falls, Chapters 1121 through 1181, inclusively, be adopted in their entirety, and the following articles of merger be adopted in reconciliation of the existing zoning regulations and districts for the Township of Northampton upon merger:

RECONCILIATION

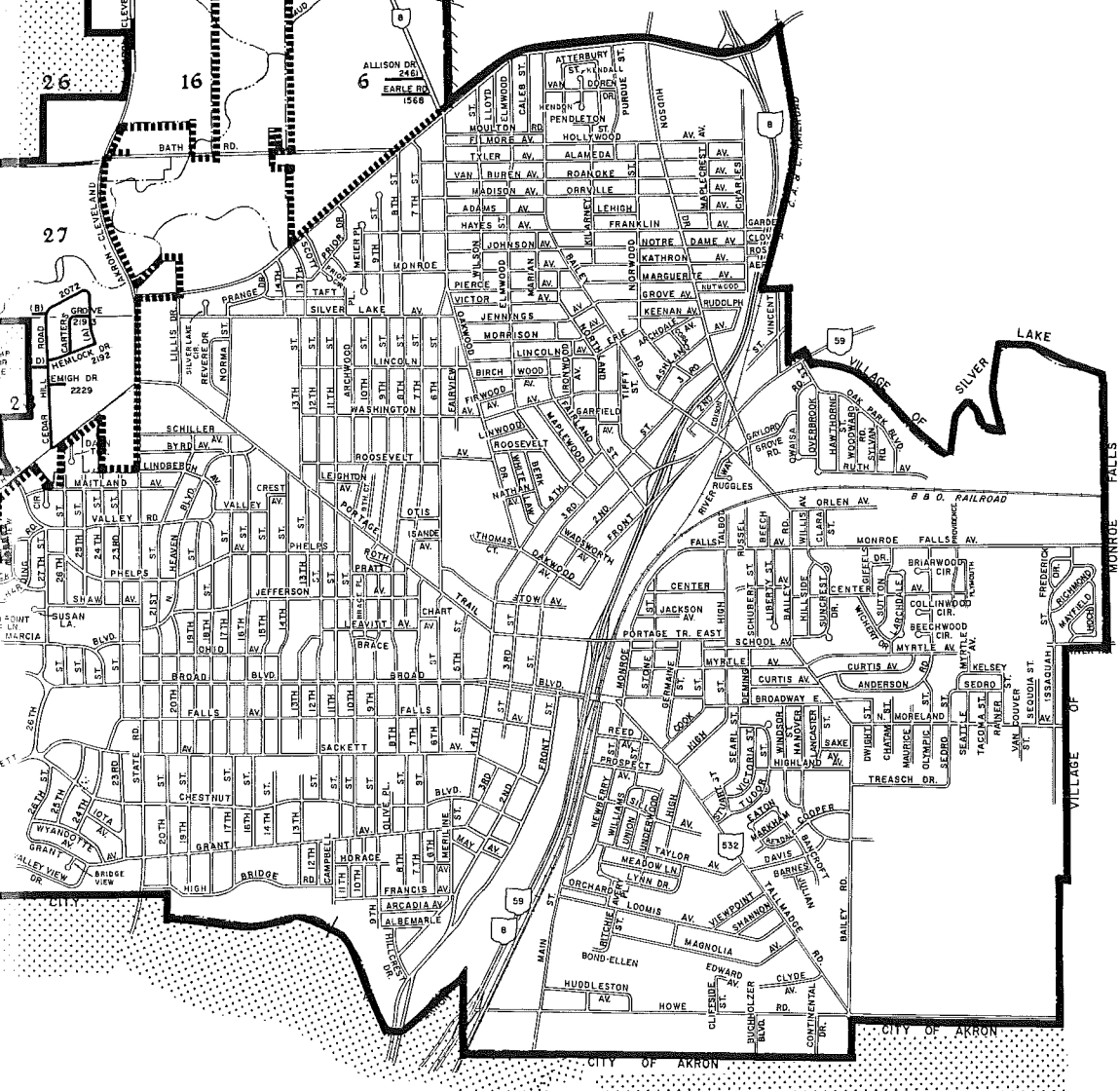
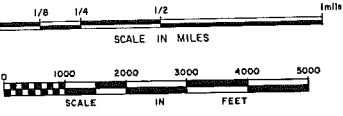
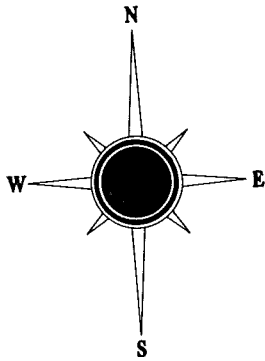
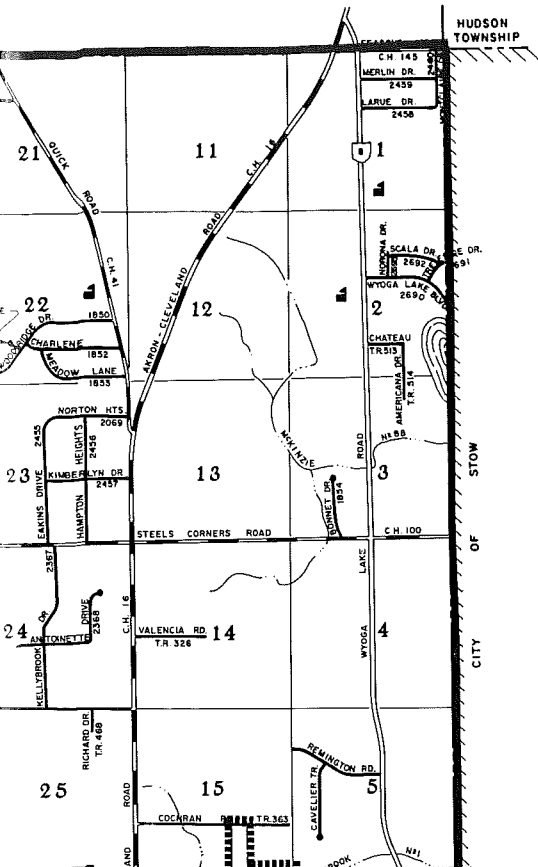
All lands currently classified under Northampton Township Zoning District classifications, so situated in said district in accordance with the official Northampton Township zoning map and District Regulations, as amended, shall, upon the effective date of merger, be reconciled and, therefore, be classified under City of Cuyahoga Falls zoning district classifications as follows:

1. Industrial District (I) shall become Industrial Park (I-P) District
2. Retail Business District (B-1) and Commercial Business District (B-2) shall become Commercial General (C-G) District



-  "New City" Boundary
-  Existing Boundary - Cuyahoga Falls & Northampton
-  City of Akron
-  CVNRA (National Park)

Proposed "New City" of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio



3. Retail Business and Automotive Service District (B-1a) shall become Highway Service Commercial (C-H) District
4. Residence District (R-2), (R-2a), and (R-2b) shall become Low Density Single Family (R-4) District
5. Residence District Multiple Family (R-3) shall become Medium Density Multiple Family (R-17) District
6. Residence District Recreational (R-R) shall become a part of R-1 Agricultural and Rural Residential and Single Family District, as adopted herein, and the official City of Cuyahoga Falls zoning map shall be amended to reflect the above changes.

(If your property is currently zoned commercial, industrial or residential, it will remain the same; however, it will be subject to the City of Cuyahoga Falls zoning regulations governing its use rather than the Township regulations.)

CHAPTER 1139 - ZONING REGULATIONS

The City of Cuyahoga Falls Zoning Regulations shall be amended by adopting Chapter 1139, R-1 Agricultural, Rural Residential and Single-Family District (Copies available at either the Cuyahoga Falls or Northampton Township offices). This district was specifically created to preserve the rural residential character presently known in Northampton Township and shall encompass all lands currently situated in Northampton Township zoned R-1 and R-R.

(This district preserves rural residential uses and provides for larger residential and agricultural lot usage with septic systems.)

EXISTING USES

Recognizing existing uses, any person or persons legally utilizing a premise as authorized under the Northampton Township Zoning Code and as approved or authorized under Conditional Use Certificate or variance as granted by the Northampton Township Board of Zoning Appeals shall legally be entitled to continue such use subject to any conditions imposed thereon, however, no such use shall be expanded, altered, or changed to a different use. Any use not legally operated at the time of the merger shall not be permitted or condoned. Any non-conforming legal existing use in conflict with the existing zoning shall be subject to Chapter 1143 Non-Conforming Use Regulations of the City of Cuyahoga Falls Zoning Code.

(If it was a legal use before the merger, it will remain a legal use and vice versa.)

LAND USE AND THOROUGHFARE PLAN

Upon merger, a new Land Use and Thoroughfare Plan shall be presented to the Planning Commission within three years of the date of merger.

(No drastic changes will occur in zoning or land use policy; however, the new city must develop a land use plan within three years to provide a basis for zoning decisions in the future. The existing City of Cuyahoga Falls has such a plan.)

SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS

The current Subdivision Regulations, Chapter 1115, "Procedures", Section 1115.02 Classification of Subdivision Type, Subsection A Minor Subdivision; Paragraph 2, "When City water and sewer are available", shall be amended to read as follows:

"When City water and sewer, or an approved alternative, are available."

THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Upon merger, the existing five member Planning Commission, as it exists in the City of Cuyahoga Falls, shall remain unchanged. In addition, a three member advisory commission shall be established for a period of two years; said commission members to be comprised of three Northampton residents, two appointed by the Northampton Board of Trustees and one by the Cuyahoga Falls City Council. This advisory commission would be a non-voting adjunct of the Planning Commission and would specifically address itself to those planning and zoning matters pertinent to the now-existing Northampton Township. The advisory commission would be in a position to investigate and report, with a non-binding recommendation, to the Planning Commission.

(In the first two years of existence, the "new city" will have a special advisory commission from the former township to advise and work with the City of Cuyahoga Falls Planning Commission.)

ARTICLE III

PUBLIC SAFETY AND PERSONNEL

GENERAL POLICY

Upon merger of the City of Cuyahoga Falls and Northampton Township, all individuals lawfully appointed and employed in a full-time capacity by Northampton Township on May 1, 1985, shall be offered full-time employment with the newly merged city of Cuyahoga Falls with no loss in pay at positions to be determined by the needs of the department to which such employees would normally be assigned, under the following terms and conditions:

1. That no civil service, psychological or physical examinations shall be required of Northampton Township employees to qualify for initial appointment to positions with the newly merged City of Cuyahoga Falls.
2. That Northampton Township employees shall retain all seniority acquired as full-time employees of Northampton Township from their most recent date of hire.
3. That upon appointment all Northampton Township employees shall enjoy the same rights, privileges, duties, and responsibilities as the current employees of the City of Cuyahoga Falls in their respective departments holding the same rank with the same number of years of service and they shall be hired at the pay scale which shall give them the least additional compensation in excess of that which they received as an employee of Northampton Township. For the purposes of this term and conditions of merger, the pay of each full-time employee of Northampton Township shall be the employee's base pay effective May 1, 1985, plus any regularly scheduled anniversary pay increases granted during the period from May 1, 1985 to December 31, 1985.

4. That full-time employment with Northampton Township shall be included in fulfilling probationary time requirements with the City of Cuyahoga Falls.
5. Subject to qualifications to be established by the head of the appropriate department within the City of Cuyahoga Falls, individuals lawfully appointed by Northampton Township after May 1, 1985, to replace any full-time employee employed by Northampton Township on May 1, 1985, shall be offered full-time employment with the newly merged City of Cuyahoga Falls with no loss in pay or seniority but subject to any applicable probationary period required.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. Full-time employees of the Northampton Township Police Department shall be hired at the rank of "Patrolman" except that the Chief and Captain of the Northampton Police Department shall be hired at the rank of "Lieutenant" and "Sergeant" respectively, and Dispatchers shall be hired as "Radio Operators".
2. Nothing in these terms and conditions of merger shall be construed so as to limit the authority of the Chief of the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department to assign and reassign personnel and/or equipment as necessary to provide adequate police protection for the merged areas of Northampton Township and the City of Cuyahoga Falls.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. Full-time employees of the Northampton Township Fire Department shall be hired at the rank of "Fire Fighter" except that the Chief of the Northampton Fire Department shall be hired at the rank of "Captain".
2. No later than April 1, 1986, fifteen (15) additional full-time fire fighters shall be appointed by the City of Cuyahoga Falls subject to the rules and regulations of the Civil Service Commission of the City of Cuyahoga Falls except that a 5% bonus shall be added to the civil service examination grade of all persons who receive a passing grade on such examination if such person is a resident of Cuyahoga Falls at the time of said examination and he or she has been a member of a part-time fire department for at least one (1) year immediately prior to taking the examination.
3. No later than April 1, 1986, a rescue squad manned by full-time employees of the Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department shall be stationed in the area previously known as "Northampton Township" and on January 1, 1986, the practice of transporting patients to a medical facility, except in life threatening situations, shall cease.
4. During a period of transition from January 1, 1986 to December 31, 1988, or until such time as a sufficient number of full-time fire fighters are available, part-time fire fighters previously employed by Northampton Township will be used as the Chief of the Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department in his absolute discretion may determine are needed in the Northampton area to supplement the full-time fire fighters assigned to said area. Part-time fire fighters shall in no event be employed or used by the Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department after December 31, 1988.
5. Nothing in these terms and conditions of merger shall be construed so as to limit the authority of the Chief of the Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department to assign or reassign personnel and/or equipment as necessary to provide adequate fire protection for the merged areas of Northampton Township and the City of Cuyahoga Falls.

(The previous resolution intends to provide:

For a sufficient number of qualified and experienced personnel to continue the level of services currently being provided by requiring that experienced, full-time employees of Northampton Township be offered employment with the newly merged community;

For an orderly transition from the part-time fire and rescue service currently provided in the Northampton Township area to a full-time fire and rescue service City-wide through the hiring of additional fire and rescue personnel;

That the current Northampton Township practice of transporting rescue squad patients to a medical facility shall cease, upon the termination of the special tax levy supporting such service, except in life threatening situations; and

The general policy would apply to all employees, including police, fire and road. The Police and Fire Department's specific recommendations have been drafted and are in addition to the general policy, but again the general policy covers all employees.)

**ARTICLE IV
TAXATION AND FINANCE**

**PROPOSED BUDGET
COMBINED - CUYAHOGA FALLS AND NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP
ESTIMATE 1986 - 1989**

	1986 ESTIMATE	1987 ESTIMATE	1988 ESTIMATE	1989 ESTIMATE
Beginning Balance	\$ 1,307,174	\$ 1,401,526	\$ 1,499,038	\$ 1,598,840
Revenue	12,740,159	13,332,619	13,954,704	14,607,894
Expenditures	12,645,807	13,235,107	13,854,902	14,505,657
Ending Balance	\$ 1,401,526	\$ 1,499,038	\$ 1,598,840	\$ 1,701,077

Added Revenue:

It is our estimate that the municipal income tax on payrolls will produce approximately \$800,000 annually.

Payroll Income Tax Distribution:

Capital Improvements	\$	120,000
Operating General Fund	\$	680,000

It is our estimate that the business profit income tax will produce approximately \$140,000 annually.

Business Profit Income Tax Distribution:

Capital Improvements	\$	21,000
Operating General Fund		119,000

Income tax revenues historically show an increase between five and ten percent annually. \$800,000 has been included in revenue for all years.

Estimated savings by combining administrative offices.	\$	91,909.70
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Added Expenditures:

The following amounts have been included in expenditures above:

Street Department	\$	400,000
Fire Department	\$	373,000
Municipal Court	\$	30,000
Cemetery	\$	24,722
Police Department	\$	12,000
Total	\$	839,722

Added Revenue	\$	890,909.70
Less Additional Expenditures		<u>839,722.00</u>
Total Additional Revenue	\$	<u>51,187.70</u>

(The previous resolution intends to provide:

The Tax and Finance Committee has concluded that there will be an anticipated net gain of \$51,187.70 in the first year budget resulting from merger.

Upon merger, the city portion of your property tax in Northampton will increase from 11.65 mills to 11.95 mills. (This amounts to \$10.50 per year on property valued at \$100,000 and \$5.25 on property valued at \$50,000). Northampton residents and businesses will also be subject to a 1.5% income tax.

There will be no change in either the property tax or income tax in Cuyahoga Falls resulting from merger).

Article V and VI pertain to Cuyahoga Falls residents only.

ARTICLE V CHARTER AMENDMENT

CITY OF CUYAHOGA FALLS CHARTER AMENDMENT

In order to adopt these Conditions of Merger, the Charter of the City of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio as originally adopted by the electorate on November 3, 1959, shall be amended to revise Article VII, "Civil Service Commission" by adding Section 5 "Former Employees of Northampton Township". Such amendment shall be as follows:

Article VII. Civil Service Commission
Section 5. Former Employees of Northampton Township

Upon the merger of Northampton Township and the City of Cuyahoga Falls, full-time employees lawfully appointed by Northampton Township shall be appointed within the classified service of the City of Cuyahoga Falls pursuant to the Conditions of Merger approved by the electorate of the City of Cuyahoga Falls and Northampton Township on November 5, 1985.

ARTICLE VI CONDITIONS OF MERGER

CHARTER AMENDMENT AND RESOLUTION RECONCILIATION

In order for these Conditions of Merger to be adopted, the Cuyahoga Falls City Charter Amendment and Resolution pertaining to these Conditions of Merger must be adopted in total.

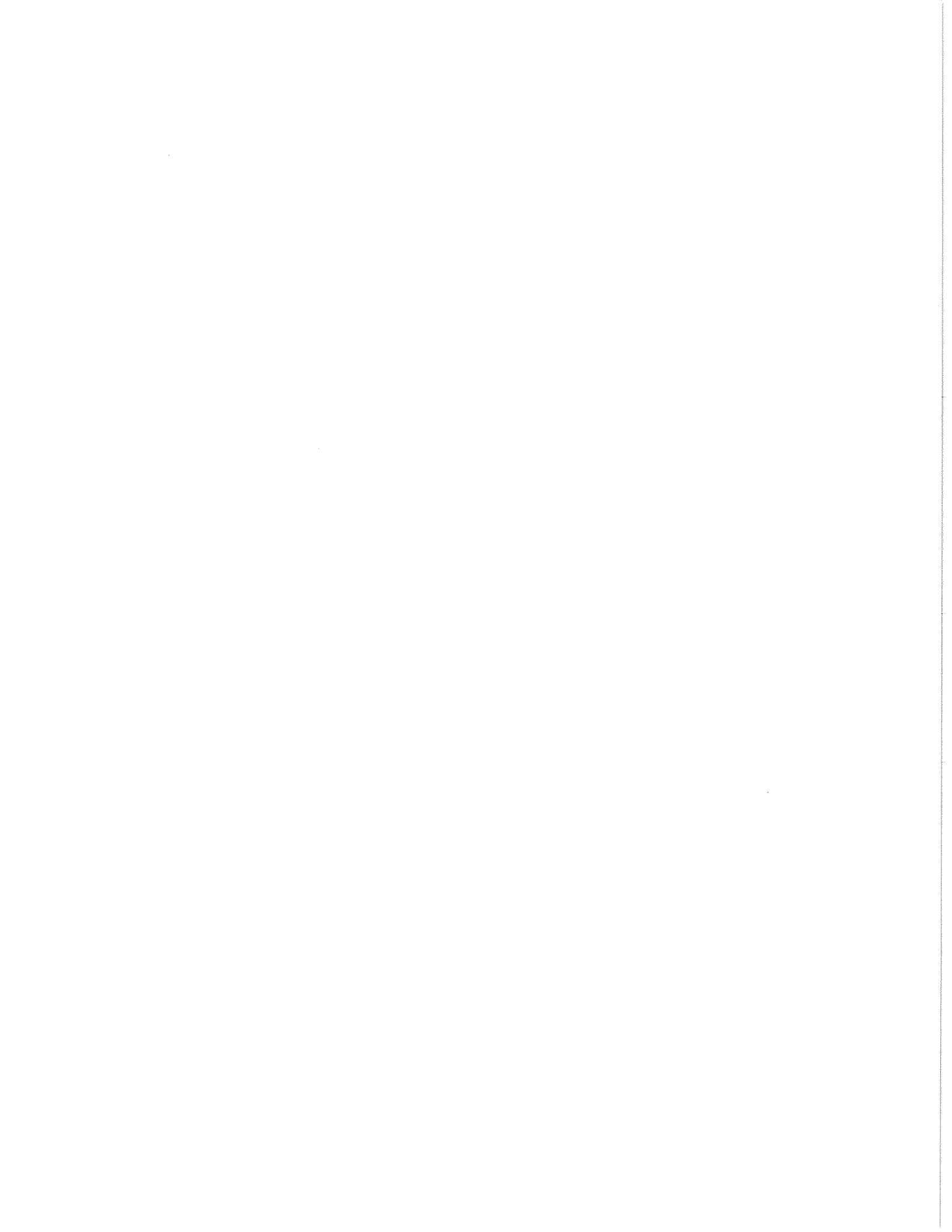
(The three issues on the ballot pertaining to merger are:

- 1. Conditions of Merger**
- 2. Cuyahoga Falls Charter Amendment**
- 3. Resolution**

All three of these provisions must be adopted by the Cuyahoga Falls electorate in order for the merger to occur.)

CUYAHOGA FALLS - NORTHAMPTON MERGER INFORMATION HOTLINE

Installed at Cuyahoga Falls City Hall is the **CUYAHOGA FALLS - NORTHAMPTON MERGER INFORMATION HOTLINE**. For information concerning the merger or to have any questions answered which you may have, simply dial **920-1614** and leave your name, telephone number, and your question with the operator. Your question will then be referred to the appropriate Merger Commission member who will return your call as quickly as possible. Questions of a general nature will likely be answered on the spot and may not require a return phone call. Please note that if you are calling Information to obtain the Hotline number, (by dialing **1411**), you must ask specifically for the **CUYAHOGA FALLS - NORTHAMPTON MERGER INFORMATION HOTLINE**.



CUYAHOGA FALLS/NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP
MERGER STUDY COMMISSION
2310 2nd St.
CUYAHOGA FALLS , OH. 44221

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