

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2014-0052

Sponsored by: County Executive FitzGerald	A Resolution expressing support for the Cleveland 2016 Host Committee, Inc.'s efforts to secure a National Presidential Convention in Cleveland in 2016, and authorizing the County Executive to negotiate and execute a contract with Cleveland 2016 Host Committee, Inc. in the amount of \$2,500,000.00 to support a bid for a National Presidential Nominating Convention in 2016, contingent upon a winning bid, and a contract with the appointed lead law enforcement agency to contribute up to \$2,500,000.00 in law enforcement services and resources, contingent upon a winning bid, subject to reimbursement in the event of a security grant by the Federal Government; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
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WHEREAS, the Republican National Committee and the Democratic National Committee have invited select U.S. cities to respond to a formal request for proposal to host the Presidential Nominating National Convention in 2016;

WHEREAS, efforts are now underway to submit competitive bids by Cleveland 2016 Host Committee, Inc., an Ohio non-profit corporation formed through a coalition of local non-profits and civic leaders, including the Greater Cleveland Partnership, Positively Cleveland, the Downtown Cleveland Alliance, in coordination with the State of Ohio, the City of Cleveland, and the County;

WHEREAS, Cleveland 2016 Host Committee, Inc. will not be considered a political committee under any state or federal laws or regulations;

WHEREAS, Cleveland 2016 Host Committee, Inc.'s primary function will be to (i) advise and support the host city, its partners and the local community in efforts to promote the local economy, encourage commerce and economic development, assist with the projection of a favorable image of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County; (ii) create and implement a program designed to promote Cuyahoga County area businesses as well as to attract and permanently retain business opportunities from outside of the State of Ohio; and (iii) fulfill all bid obligations to facilitate the needs of hosting a National Convention;

WHEREAS, the efforts to attract a National Convention to our region have support from the political, civil, cultural, and business leaders in our communities, paving the way for future partnerships and regional collaborations benefiting our cities;

WHEREAS, a successful bid for a National Convention would feature Cuyahoga County as a major convention and tourist destination;

WHEREAS, a historic national convention would have a positive economic impact, benefiting significantly our regional economy;

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the a National Convention would attract 35,000 visitors to Cuyahoga County, create new jobs, and have a \$150,000,000 to \$200,000,000 net positive economic impact on our region;

WHEREAS, travel and tourism rank among the Cuyahoga County's largest industries and the positive impact of hosting a National Convention in the Cuyahoga County would be significant for our community; and

WHEREAS, hosting the National Convention would not only bring immediate economic gains, but would place the entire metropolitan region in the national spotlight for years to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. That County Council hereby expresses support for Cleveland 2016 Host Committee, Inc.'s efforts to submit a winning bid for a National Convention in Cleveland in 2016 and authorizes the County Executive to negotiate and enter into the following contracts in support of these efforts:

- (a) A contract with Cleveland 2016 Host Committee Inc. in the amount of \$2,500,000 to support the bid, contingent upon the City of Cleveland being named the Host City for a National Presidential Nominating Convention in 2016; and
- (b) A contract with the lead law enforcement agency appointed by the Department of Justice to contribute up to \$2,500,000 in law enforcement services and resources, by and through the Cuyahoga County Sheriff, in connection with providing security for the National Convention, a designated national security event, subject to reimbursement in the event that a federal national security or homeland security grant is awarded by the Federal Government, which has been historically administered through the Department of Justice.

SECTION 2. All contracts authorized herein are contingent upon the City of Cleveland being named the Host City for a National Presidential Convention in 2016 and are subject to the approval of the Director of Law and/or his designee as to legal form and correctness.

