

A RESOLUTION OF GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO RANDY KNILANS, POSTHUMOUSLY, TO HONOR AND DEDICATE THE LAKE ROAD BIKE LANES IN MEMORY OF RANDY KNILANS.

WHEREAS, this City Council wishes to pause and express its gratitude, posthumously for the commendable public service performed by Randy Knilans; and

WHEREAS, Randy served on the Avon Lake Planning Commission for over 26 years, as a member and as Chair for many of those years, and was the Planning Commission representative for the Avon Lake Historical Preservation Commission; and

WHEREAS, Randy served with intelligence and integrity and faithfully executed the duties required as a member and as Chair; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Randy worked diligently to help develop the revisions to the Land Use Plan and the Planning and Zoning Code; and

WHEREAS, as a licensed architect, Randy helped design the addition at the Old Firehouse Community Center and designed the gazebo in Veterans Memorial Park; and

WHEREAS, Randy was an avid cyclist and raced sailboats competitively and enjoyed Avon Lake's waterfront. While on his daily bike ride on Lake Road, he was tragically killed by a drunk driver on June 9, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety and Health Committee immediately began looking for ways to improve road safety in Avon Lake on behalf of cyclists and pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, the City hired the Mannik & Smith Group to conduct a multimodal study in Avon Lake that would identify locations in need of enhanced safety measures, recommend ways to improve connectivity, and facilitate grant applications for funding sources; and

WHEREAS, the Mannik & Smith Group has successfully to date helped the City obtain \$3,099,700 in funding for the installation of sidewalks, ADA curb ramps, and enhanced pedestrian crosswalks on Lake Road; and

WHEREAS, during the planning stages of the Lake Road Repaving Project, the City coordinated with ODOT the widening of the bike lanes from four feet to five feet on the north and south side of Lake Road, the changing of the center line from passing in various locations to double lines thereby prohibiting passing, and the striping of a center turn lane in locations that are warranted; and

WHEREAS, during the summer of 2023, Lake Road was repaved that included the bike lane safety enhancements and road striping, and the next phase of safety measures will be installing sidewalks, ADA curb ramps, and pedestrian crossings on Lake Road; and

WHEREAS, the tragic death of Randy Knilans, a beloved husband, father, brother, and an upstanding citizen of Avon Lake, has prompted the City to reflect and evaluate the safety of the roadways in Avon Lake and to determine the best course of action to increase safety measures for the benefit of the public; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to honor Randy's life, work, and commitment to Avon Lake by dedicating the newly paved Lake Road to Randy's memory and service through wayfinding signage placed along Lake Road. The signs will have QR (quick response) codes for visitors to scan that will provide a website link that will educate the public on Randy's contributions to the City, feature bike safety tips, and provide statistics on the hazards of drinking and driving.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF AVON LAKE, STATE OF OHIO:

Section No. 1: That this Council does for and on behalf of the City of Avon Lake extend its gratitude and appreciation of Randy Knilans, posthumously, for his dedicated service and commitment to the residents of Avon Lake and to honor his legacy through the implementation of safety enhancements to the roadways in Avon Lake that will benefit all cyclists and pedestrians traveling in the community he cherished.

Section No. 2: That the Clerk of Council shall include this Resolution in the minutes of this meeting, and she is hereby requested to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the family of Randy Knilans.

PASSED: 8/28/2023

/s/ Martin E. O'Donnell

President of Council

POSTED: 9/01/2023

APPROVED: 8/29/2023

ATTEST: /s/ Valerie E. Rosmarin

Clerk of Council

/s/ Gregory J. Zilka

Mayor