

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE BLUE ENVELOPE PROGRAM AND TO ENCOURAGE ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND PROMOTION WITHIN THE CITY OF AVON LAKE.

WHEREAS, the Blue Envelope Program was first developed in 2020 to improve communication between law enforcement officers and individuals with autism and has since expanded nationwide to support individuals with various disabilities, including anxiety, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), dementia, and other medical conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Envelope Program utilizes a clearly identifiable blue envelope to hold a driver's license, vehicle registration, and proof of insurance, along with helpful communication tips for law enforcement, thereby reducing verbal exchanges and aiding in de-escalation; and

WHEREAS, individuals with disabilities represent approximately 20 percent of the population, but 30 to 50 percent of those are involved in police use-of-force incidents, highlighting the importance of tools and training that support safer interactions; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Envelope Program is supported by numerous state and local agencies across the country, including the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, the Ohio State Highway Patrol, and the Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities (Murray Ridge Center); and

WHEREAS, several Ohio municipalities have adopted or endorsed the Program to promote safer and more understanding interactions between law enforcement and community members; and

WHEREAS, opportunities exist for the City of Avon Lake to partner with the Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities to share information, serve as a distribution point for Blue Envelopes, provide officer training, and explore the development of an Avon Lake-branded Blue Envelope; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to promote public safety, inclusiveness, and community well-being by supporting the implementation of the Program.

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

Section No. 1: That Council hereby expresses its support for the Blue Envelope Program and encourages its implementation within the City of Avon Lake in

partnership with the Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities and other appropriate agencies.

Section No. 2: That Council supports ongoing training for Avon Lake law enforcement personnel regarding best practices for interacting with individuals with disabilities, including training such as Safety on the Spectrum™ or similar programs.

Section No. 3: That the Administration is encouraged to communicate the availability and purpose of the Blue Envelope Program to residents and to explore becoming a designated local distribution site.

Section No. 4: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees, which resulted in such formal actions, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section No. 5: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

PASSED: 12/08/2025

/s/ Jennifer G. Fenderbosch  
Council President

POSTED: 12/12/2025

APPROVED: 12/09/2025

ATTEST: /s/ Valerie E. Rosmarin  
Clerk of Council

/s/ Mark A. Spaetzel  
Mayor