

# News Release



**Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **County Council Adopts Legislation to Place Renewal of the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board Levy on November 2017 Ballot**

On June 19, 2017 County Council adopted Resolution 2017-239, which will place the issue of renewing the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board’s (SCDDB) existing real property tax levy before voters this fall. Today, County Executive Shapiro signed the legislation, which is a critical step to continuing quality developmental disabilities programs and services to thousands in Summit County. The levy, which is **NOT a new tax**, will appear on the November 7, 2017 General Election ballot.

County Council and County Executive Shapiro had previously adopted and signed a Resolution of Necessity last month, and the County’s Social Services Advisory Board (SSAB), made up of community social service leaders recommended that the renewal levy be placed on the ballot. If adopted, the renewal levy will continue for the next six years at a rate of 4.50 mills for each dollar of property valuation, which equates to a total monthly cost of \$11.48 for an owner of a \$100,000 home. The tax has remained unchanged since 2007 even as the SCDDB generates \$15 million less in revenue than it did in 2007.

“4,700 Summit County adults and children with developmental disabilities depend on this levy renewal to fund programs that enable them to live quality lives” said County Executive Shapiro. “Early childhood intervention, facility and residential support, and day programs are only a few of

the imperative services the renewal will fund. These types of programs are an investment in our community and will not increase our taxes.”

The adoption of the legislation signals a continuation of County Council’s strong support for the developmentally disabled in Summit County. “The renewal of this levy is crucial in continuing services for thousands of Summit residents, and reaffirming our commitment to those with disabilities regardless of socio-economic or demographic background” said Council President John Schmidt. “These services are imperative for the daily well-being of both adults and children in our county.”

“The mission of Summit County DD is to create opportunities for each person with a developmental disability to become a full contributing member of this great community” said John Trunk, Superintendent, Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board. “Passage of this levy is critical if the services and supports needed by the citizens of Summit County with disabilities are to continue.”

For more information:

<http://www.summitdd.org/blog/summit-dd-seeks-to-renew-operating-levy/>

<http://www.summitdd.org/resources/service-funding/>

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