

4 May 2021

The “Preserve the Valley” Citizen Action Group – seeking especially to keep a 45 acre plot of land in the City of Akron from being “developed” into a housing project – has received the unanimous support of the executive committee of the Portage Trail Group of the Sierra Club.

Right now, we and others are trying to slow or stop the increases in levels of carbon dioxide in the earth’s atmosphere, and in average global temperatures.

We also follow the philosophy of our Sierra Club founder John Muir, who argued throughout his adult life that wild places are important to the long-term health of the planet earth, and of each of us human beings.

As for this 45 acres, we think its location adjacent to Summit MetroParks and near the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, makes it an important area to preserve trees (which hold carbon) and to support animals big and small.

We have seen a proposal by the Western Reserve Land Conservancy to purchase the specific land under consideration now, and to eventually allow the Summit County MetroParks to manage it. That sounds helpful to us!

Our Portage Trail Group Sierra Club currently has over 3,800 members in twelve Ohio counties – Ashland, Carroll, Harrison, Holmes, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas and Wayne Counties. We include residents inside the City of Akron, but we know that use of all land can affect people everywhere.

We wish to stand behind and to support our members, and others, who are working persistently to “Preserve the Valley.”

2021 Executive Committee of the Portage Trail Group Sierra Club