



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: K. Darlene Mims**  
**Chief of Staff, County Council**  
**Phone: 330-643-2725**

**March 14, 2008**

**Contact:** K. Darlene Mims  
Chief of Staff, County Council  
330-643-2725  
[dmims@summitoh.net](mailto:dmims@summitoh.net)

**Date:** March 14, 2008

**At-Large Summit County Councilman Jon Poda sponsoring  
'Methamphetamine Property Awareness Task Force'**

At-Large Summit County Council Member Jon Poda (D), of Green, will introduce legislation at the March 17 regular Council meeting that, if passed, will establish the "Summit County Methamphetamine Property Awareness Task Force."

The task force, which would consist of representatives from a variety of Summit County agencies, departments and law enforcement officials, would collaborate and work to find ways to better inform residents about properties that may have been negatively affected by the production or presence of the drug methamphetamine.

"By bringing together different representatives in Summit County, the task force hopes to help protect residents from some of the awful things that can happen from living in a former meth property," said Council Member Poda. "We want to explore ways that we can let residents know that a particular property may be harmful as well as what to do about it if it is."

Council Member Poda said he did not want to wait for the State of Ohio to enact standards that would better protect residents, when the county could act now toward positive change.

"We have great law enforcement and health officials in place throughout Summit County and it makes good sense to pool our efforts and come up with solutions instead of sitting on our hands waiting for standards to come down from the state level," Poda said.

Council Member Poda said he hopes the task force will be able to move quickly toward informing the public soon after the task force is established.

“One of the first goals will be to get all law enforcement agencies and health departments that serve the county together to share information in one database,” said Council Member Poda.

“We hope to come up with something as soon as we possibly can. Although it may take some time to develop ideas, we wanted to let the residents know that we recognize this as a problem and that we are dedicated to finding solutions to it.”

Council meetings take place at 6 p.m. on the 7<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Ohio Building, located at 175 S. Main St. in Akron, OH.

###