



*Your Back Yard for 100 Years*

## NEWS RELEASE

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### COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO HOST GORGE DAM PUBLIC MEETING OCTOBER 31

Members of the public are invited to attend a community update on the process to remove a 420-foot-wide, 60-foot-tall dam within Gorge Metro Park. The dam is one of the largest unresolved impediments to restoring the water quality of the Cuyahoga River and its removal will improve river ecology, create recreational opportunities and drive economic benefits within the local community.

On Monday, October 31 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Cuyahoga Falls Natatorium (2345 4th St., Cuyahoga Falls), Summit Metro Parks, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and other stakeholders will present a project status update. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m., with doors opening at 5:30 p.m.

Now in its sixth year, the dam removal project is managed by a group of partners that includes the City of Akron, City of Cuyahoga Falls, FirstEnergy, County of Summit, Summit County Council, Summit Metro Parks, The University of Akron, Ohio EPA, Ohio Lake Erie Commission and U.S. EPA. Currently, U.S. EPA is designing the sediment management portion of the project and the City of Akron is engineering the dam removal. Both design projects are funded through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, with matching funds through the State of Ohio.

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Established in 1921, Summit Metro Parks celebrated its centennial anniversary in 2021. The park district manages more than 15,000 acres throughout 16 parks, three nature centers and over 150 miles of trails, including 22 miles of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. Annual attendance is approximately 5.5 million visits. Find us online at [summitmetroparks.org](http://summitmetroparks.org).



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