



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SUMMIT COUNTY ABANDONED AND VACANT PROPERTY TASK FORCE  
TO HOST COMMUNITY REPORT MEETING**

On January 27, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. the County of Summit Abandoned and Vacant Property Task Force will present its *Report to the Community* at the Akron-Summit County Public Library Auditorium, 60 S. High St., in downtown Akron. At this event, representatives of the Task Force will unveil their goals for combating the problem of abandoned and vacant properties in the Greater Akron/Summit County community, as well as strategies for implementation.

The Abandoned and Vacant Property Task Force was created in October 2008, by resolution of County Council. Among other duties, the Task Force was charged with finding ways to reduce the number of abandoned and vacant properties in the County, decreasing neighborhood blight and decay, maximizing the use of abandoned and vacant properties and preventing future abandonments and vacancies by addressing the needs of homeowners who face the loss of their property through foreclosure or other reasons. Chaired by District 5 County Councilman, Cazzell Smith, Sr., the Task Force includes representation from the offices of the County Executive, County Council, Fiscal Officer and Consumer Affairs, City of Akron, local mayors, non-profit organizations, lending and real-estate entities and other interested parties. Having studied this important issue for the last twelve months, the Task Force is prepared to present its findings and recommendations.

“This Task Force has done a lot of work to address this problem of abandoned and vacant properties in this community. We’re looking forward to sharing the information we’ve found and using resources that we hope to initiate in developing lasting solutions,” said Smith.

***For more information or to RSVP for the Report to the Community meeting, contact the Summit County Council Office at 330-643-2725.***