



## NEWS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero

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### PARMA CITY COUNCIL APPROVES PURCHASE OF LIFESAVING AED DEVICES

**(PARMA)** – The City of Parma will soon purchase ten automated external defibrillators (AED) that will be placed in several areas around the city where large numbers of residents congregate. Parma City Council has approved spending about \$20,000 to purchase the defibrillators from Physio-Control, Inc.

“Safety automatically goes hand-in-hand with service in our community,” said Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. “This is state of the art equipment that has been proven to save the lives of those who suffer sudden cardiac arrest. There is no doubt the AEDs will make a difference.”

The American Heart Association says more than 300,000 people in the U.S. die every year from sudden cardiac arrest. And doctors say more than 95% of them die before reaching the hospital. But the survival rate jumps to 50% in cases where CPR and defibrillation is provided within five to seven minutes of a heart attack.

“It’s hard to put a dollar figure on the purchase if even one life is saved with the help of an AED,” said Parma City Councilwoman Mary Galinas who sponsored the ordinance. “As Chairwoman of our Safety Committee, I feel the same obligation as Mayor DePiero – to create the safest environment possible in our city.”

Parma City Council members Galinas and Sean Brennan had previously sponsored a separate resolution encouraging all schools, churches, offices and other public places to install AEDs. Both council members assisted in the use of an AED and CPR when an elderly woman suffered an apparent heart attack while voting at St. Bridget School in the fall of 2007.

The plan allows for purchase of ten Lifepak 1000 AEDs and ten wall cabinets with alarms and brackets. Parma safety officials will ultimately choose the best locations for placement of the AEDs. Potential sites include public office buildings, city pools, the city golf course and other recreation areas.

(more)

“These devices walk you through the process,” said Mayor DePiero. “They’re mini computers that use voice commands, text messages and more to allow any one of us to become a life-saver. And that’s what makes this one of the most important purchases of my administration.”

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