

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND
SETTING FORTH OUR COMMITMENT TO PURSUE POLICY GOALS
UNDER THE HEALTHY EATING ACTIVE LIVING CITIES CAMPAIGN**

- WHEREAS**, in January 2013, the Maryland Municipal League entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Institute for Public Health Innovation to work collaboratively on the HEAL Cities & Towns Campaign; and
- WHEREAS**, The City of College Park has the ability to affect the health of its residents; and
- WHEREAS**, planning and constructing a built environment that encourages walking, biking, and other forms of physical activity can promote health; and
- WHEREAS**, high rates of costly chronic disease among both children and adults are correlated to environments with few or no options for healthy eating and active living; and
- WHEREAS**, more than half of Maryland's adults are overweight or obese and therefore at risk for many chronic conditions including diabetes, heart disease, cancer, arthritis, stroke, and, hypertension; and
- WHEREAS**, one in three youth in Maryland is overweight or obese; and
- WHEREAS**, more children are being diagnosed with diseases linked to overweight and obesity previously seen only in adults, such as Type 2 diabetes and heart disease; and
- WHEREAS**, the current generation of children are expected to have shorter lives than their parents due to the consequences of obesity; and
- WHEREAS**, obesity takes a tremendous toll on the health, productivity of all Marylanders; and
- WHEREAS**, the annual cost to Maryland—in medical bills, workers compensation and lost productivity— for overweight, obesity, and physical inactivity exceeds \$3 billion; and
- WHEREAS**, supporting the health of residents and the local workforce would decrease chronic disease and health care costs and increase productivity;
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of College Park Council hereby recognize that obesity is a serious public health threat to the health and wellbeing of adults, children and families in College Park and a commitment is needed to put healthy choices within reach of all residents. While individual lifestyle changes are

necessary, individual effort alone is insufficient to combat obesity's rising tide. Significant societal and environmental changes are needed to support individual efforts to make healthier choices. To that end, the City of College Park adopts this Healthy Eating Active Living resolution:

Physical Activity, Active Transportation, and Land Use

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of College Park Council and relevant staff responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of neighborhood streets should make every effort to:

- Ensure streets are safe for all users (motorists, bicycles, pedestrians, and the handicapped) by adopting a Complete Streets policy.

Access to Affordable Nutritious Foods

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of College Park Council and relevant staff should make every effort to:

- Promote Farmers Markets and encourage SNAP/EBT to be accepted at those markets.
- Develop and promote community gardens and urban agriculture by identifying vacant land and a process for conversion to community gardens or urban agriculture.

Municipal Workplace Wellness

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in order to promote employee wellness and set an example for other local employers, the City of College Park Council and relevant staff pledge to adopt and implement a workplace wellness policy that will:

- Involve municipal staff by convening a workplace wellness committee with representatives from each department. The wellness committee will consider further actions for implementation by the Human Resources Department in conjunction with the City Manager's Office.

Implementation

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager should report back to the City Council annually regarding steps taken to implement the Resolution, additional steps planned, and any desired actions that would need to be taken by the Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that College Park Staff shall work with HEAL Cities & Towns Campaign Staff to explore HEAL policies and to identify those policies that are suitable for the City's unique local circumstances.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager will report back to this Council with recommendations not later than 180 days from the date of this Resolution.

ADOPTED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of College Park, Maryland at a regular meeting on the 13th day of May, 2014

EFFECTIVE the 13th day of May, 2014

WITNESS:

COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

Janeen S. Miller
Janeen S. Miller, CMC, City Clerk

Andrew M. Fellows
Andrew M Fellows, Mayor

**APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:**

Suellen M. Ferguson
Suellen M. Ferguson, City Attorney