



A RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH THE COMMITMENT OF THE TOWN OF LAWRENCEVILLE TO PROMOTE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Town of Lawrenceville has the ability to affect its residents through planning, public facilities and promoting a healthy community; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lawrenceville has an interest to preserve, promote and improve the health of its residents by taking active steps to increase healthy eating and active living within its boundaries and the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, more than half of Virginia'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 Virginia is overweight or obese; and

WHEREAS, the adult obesity rate in the County of Brunswick exceeds the average obesity rate of the Commonwealth by more than 20%; and

WHEREAS, the County of Brunswick is ranked 103/133 amongst cities and counties in the Commonwealth for health outcomes and 128/133 in health factors; and

WHEREAS, polling and ranking organizations are consistently using health as a metric for determining desirability for healthier communities that are more desirable locations to visit, own or operate a business and/or raise a family; and

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Lawrenceville Town Council hereby recognizes that the Lawrenceville Town Council has a role in promoting and encouraging opportunities to improve the public's health by encouraging the development and implementation of policies and practices that support and promote healthy eating and active living among its residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lawrenceville Town Council hereby recognizes that obesity is a serious chronic public health threat to the health and wellbeing of adults, children and families in the Town of Lawrenceville and its surrounding communities and that a

commitment is needed to put healthy choices within the reach of all residents. To that end, the Town of Lawrenceville adopts this Healthy Eating Active Living Resolution that will:

- Review the Town's Comprehensive Plan with the intent to increase the opportunities for physical activity whenever and wherefore possible;
- Develop partnerships with residents, organizations and businesses to promote healthy eating and more active lifestyles in the community;
- Continue to support the development and use of the Tobacco Heritage Trail for walking, biking and other physical activity;
- Facilitate the development of community gardens and farmer's markets to increase access for residents to healthy foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Lawrenceville shall work with HEAL Cities & Towns Campaign to explore HEAL policies and to identify and implement those policies that are suitable for the Town's unique local circumstances.

Adopted by the Lawrenceville Town Council this 4 day of June, 2015.

By Order of Council

William Herrington, Mayor

CERTIFIED:

Wanda E. Johnson, Town Clerk