

**RESOLUTION NO. #2014-02
SETTING FORTH THE CITY OF HYATTSVILLE'S COMMITMENT
TO HEALTHY EATING, ACTIVE LIVING**

Preamble

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 Healthy Eating, Active Living ("HEAL") Cities & Towns Campaign; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hyattsville has the ability to affect the health of its residents and its work force; and

WHEREAS, planning and constructing an environment can encourage walking, biking, and other forms of physical activity can promote health; and

WHEREAS, high rates of costly chronic disease among both children and adults have been correlated to environments with few or no options for healthy eating and active living; and

WHEREAS, some statistical evidence supports the premise that 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, some statistical evidence supports the premise that one in three youth in Maryland are overweight or obese; and

WHEREAS, more children are being diagnosed with diseases previously seen in adults such as Type 2 diabetes and heart disease; and

WHEREAS, nutrition education can help encourage healthier food choices; and

WHEREAS, a sedentary lifestyle and poor eating habits can take a significant toll on the health and productivity of all Marylanders;

WHEREAS, the annual cost to Maryland—in medical bills, workers compensation, and loss of productivity due to being overweight, obese, and reduced physical activity is estimated at over \$3 billion;

WHEREAS, supporting the health of residents and the workforce could improve productivity, increase energy levels, decrease chronic disease, and health care costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Hyattsville City Council hereby recognizes that obesity, poor eating habits, and inactivity can be threats to the health and wellbeing of adults, children and families in the City of Hyattsville. As a result, we are committed to helping the community make healthier food choices and necessary lifestyle changes. Additionally, there are significant societal and environmental changes that can support individual efforts, and to that end, the City of Hyattsville adopts this Healthy Eating Active Living ("HEAL") resolution.

Physical Activity, Active Transportation, and Land Use

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Hyattsville and staff responsible for the design and construction of parks, neighborhoods, streets, and business areas should make every effort to:

- Implement long-term environmental policies that emphasize water quality and sustainable practices;
- Design streets to support multiple means of safe travel; and
- Design infrastructure to encourage active living.

Access to Affordable Nutritious Foods

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Hyattsville and staff responsible for planning and outreach, should make every effort to:

- Promote low cost fresh foods and farmers market and encourage Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP”), Electronic Benefit Transfer (“EBT”) & Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Services (“WIC”), and healthy food choices through access and education; and
- Develop policies and partnerships to encourage community gardens and food forest opportunities.

Municipal Workplace Wellness

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Hyattsville will set an example for other businesses, and municipalities by pledging to adopt and implement workplace policies that:

- Encourage health and wellness by promoting exercise, education, balance, and healthy food choices.

Implementation

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the directors of each affected department should report back to the City of Hyattsville 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 the City of Hyattsville Staff shall work with HEAL Cities & Towns Campaign Staff to explore HEAL policies and to identify those policies that are suitable for the City of Hyattsville’s unique local circumstances.

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