

2014-20

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION BY THE LAKEWOOD CITY COUNCIL CONFIRMING THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO ENCOURAGE HEALTHY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHOICES FOR MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, obesity has been identified by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment as one of ten winnable health related battles in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, 58 percent of Colorado adults and a quarter of its children are overweight and or obese; and

WHEREAS, the obesity rate in Colorado has doubled since 1955; and

WHEREAS, the annual cost to Colorado in medical bills, workers compensation and lost productivity due to obesity and physical inactivity exceeds \$1.6 billion; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood is committed to preventing and reducing obesity by promoting healthy eating and active living in the places we live, work, learn and play; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood updated its Zoning Ordinance to enhance and encourage community agriculture opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood updated its Zoning Ordinance to promote walkability and connectivity with services and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood is committed to creating active, safe, and connected neighborhoods around the W Line and the seven light rail stations in Lakewood; and

WHEREAS, Sprout City Farms has recently opened a farm in the Two Creeks Neighborhood to provide fresh and healthy foods to the local community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood has implemented several Safe Routes to School infrastructure and education grants to encourage walking and biking to schools; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood's natural amenities provide ample access to open space, trails, and parks; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood desires to collaborate with the Colorado Municipal League, LiveWell Colorado and the Jefferson County Public Health Department to promote the importance of sustaining strong, healthy and vibrant cities

and towns and to implement healthy eating and active living policies and strategies with the goal to reduce obesity and promote healthy living; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Colorado, that:

Section 1. The City Council hereby recognizes that obesity is a serious public health threat to the health and well-being of adults, children and families in Lakewood. While individual lifestyle changes are necessary, individual efforts alone are insufficient to combat obesity's rising challenges. Significant societal and environmental changes are needed to support individual efforts to make healthier choices.

Section 2. The City Council will foster a built environment that encourages walking, biking and other forms of physical activity.

Section 3. The City Council will expand community access to indoor and outdoor public facilities through joint use agreements with schools and/or other partners.

Section 4. The City Council will include healthy goals and policies related to healthy and active living in the Comprehensive Plan update and the Sustainability Plan.

Section 5. The City Council will examine racial, ethnic, and socio-economic disparities in access to physical activity facilities and healthy foods and adopt strategies to remedy these inequities.

Section 6. The City Council will support the expansion of healthy food retailers, community gardens or farms, and farmer's markets in underserved communities to increase access to healthy foods.

Section 7. The City Council supports the LiveWell Colorado Healthy Eating Active Living Cities and Towns Campaign.

INTRODUCED, READ AND ADOPTED by a vote of 9 for and 0 against at a regular meeting of the City Council on May 12, 2014, at 7 o'clock p.m. at Lakewood City Hall, 480 South Allison Parkway, Lakewood, Colorado.

Bob Murphy, Mayor

ATTEST:

Margy Greer, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Tim Cox, City Attorney

DRAFT