

RESOLUTION NO. ____

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE POLICY OF THE CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG TO APPLY A "HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES" APPROACH TO THE CITY'S DECISION-MAKING, INCLUDING POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION, BUDGETING AND SERVICE DELIVERY; SUPPORTING THE DECISION TO HIRE DEDICATED PLANNERS TO IMPLEMENT HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENTS TO ENSURE THAT PROJECTS ARE EVALUATED BASED ON THEIR HEALTH IMPLICATIONS IN ADDITION TO TRADITIONAL METRICS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the health and well-being of the City of St. Petersburg's residents are critical for a prosperous and sustainable city; and

WHEREAS, Healthy St. Pete, a community engagement and empowerment initiative, encourages a culture of health via the implementation of diverse strategies that positively impact the many factors that affect health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, there is growing awareness that health is influenced by the interaction of many factors and not simply genetics, individual behaviors, or access to medical care. It is now widely accepted that conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, and age, known as the social determinants of health, have the greatest influence on health outcomes across populations; and

WHEREAS, the social determinants of health further affect chronic disease rates and mental illness, as well as injuries caused by accidents and violence. They also influence the adoption of healthy lifestyles by making it more or less difficult for individuals to choose behaviors that either promote or diminish health; and

WHEREAS, the social determinants of health further contribute to health inequities, defined as differences in health associated with an individual's or group's specific attributes (e.g. income, education, or race/ethnicity) that are connected to social disadvantage or historical and contemporary injustices. These inequities can be minimized through changes to policy, programs, and practices; and

WHEREAS, addressing the social determinants of health can lead to reducing the upward trend of unmitigated health care costs, one of the biggest threats to individual, business, and city government budgets alike; and

WHEREAS, Healthy St. Pete's purpose and design advances partnerships that improve the social determinants of health, which are priorities of special importance because they represent the conditions into which residents are born, live, learn, work, play and age; and

WHEREAS, neighborhoods with affordable and healthy food, safe and accessible housing, and quality employment opportunities positively influence behaviors and help to create healthy lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, in Pinellas County, the leading causes of death are heart disease at 21.5%, cancer at 20.6%, and unintentional injury at 6.1%, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that 86% of the nation's \$2.7 trillion annual health care expenditures are for people with chronic and mental health conditions. According to the Multiple Chronic Conditions Chartbook, chronic diseases and conditions such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, Type 2 diabetes, obesity, and arthritis are among the most common, costly, and preventable of all health problems (Florida Charts 2016 prepared for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services); and

WHEREAS, policies implemented by the City outside of the traditional health sector significantly affect the social determinants of health, including policies related to urban redevelopment, food access, housing, transportation, public safety, education, sustainability, climate change, parks, air and water quality, criminal justice, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, interdepartmental and interagency collaboration can lead to improved decision-making and outcomes and greater efficiencies in service delivery; and

WHEREAS, by adopting a "Health in All Policies" approach, the City recognizes that all departments have a role to play in achieving health equity, defined as the attainment of the highest level of health for all people; and

WHEREAS, achieving health equity requires valuing everyone equally with focused and ongoing societal efforts to address avoidable inequalities, historical and contemporary injustices, and the elimination of health and healthcare disparities; and

WHEREAS, "Health in All Policies" falls in line with the City's Sustainability Vision and Mission Statement that supports the long term goals of the Healthy St. Pete Initiative, Integrated Sustainability Action Plan, STAR Community Rating leadership certification, commitment to LEED and Envision standards, the Greenhouse program, Grow Smarter Initiative, and South St. Petersburg CRA Redevelopment Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Pinellas County Department of Health, with the critical support of the Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg, has set as policy the goals of achieving the highest level of physical and mental health for all people and reducing physical and mental health disparities, and this resolution is designed to be consistent with this approach.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that it shall be the policy of the City of St. Petersburg to apply a "Health in All Policies" approach to the City's decision-making, including policy development and implementation, budgeting, and service delivery.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of St. Petersburg supports the decision to hire dedicated planners to implement Health Impact Assessments to ensure projects are evaluated based on their health implications in addition to traditional metrics.

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Approved as to form and content:


City Attorney (designee)

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