

RESOLUTIONS OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA

RESOLUTION NO. 19977

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A TOBACCO-FREE POLICY FOR CENTENNIAL PARK

WHEREAS, tobacco-free environments provide an opportunity to role model non-smoking behavior in our community, especially to children and youth;

WHEREAS, following use, tobacco products are often discarded on the ground, posing a risk of ingestion to young children and animals, and causing significant litter problems requiring additional maintenance expense;

WHEREAS, the City Commission and the City-County Parks Board believe that city and county parks are established to promote healthy activities and community wellness;

WHEREAS, the City of Helena has a unique opportunity at the newly-reconstructed Centennial Park to create and sustain an environment that supports a tobacco-free norm through a tobacco-free policy, and park signage in Centennial Park;

WHEREAS, the City of Helena has a unique opportunity to assess community acceptance of and adherence to a tobacco-free park policy and consider adopting a broader tobacco-free policy for other city parks and recreation facilities.

WHEREAS, the City-County Parks Board voted unanimously on August 1, 2012 in favor of a recommendation to the Helena City Commission to designate Centennial Park as a tobacco-free park;

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WHEREAS, the City-County Board of Health voted on July 26, 2012, in favor of a recommendation that the City of Helena and Lewis and Clark County implement policies that ensure all parks in the City and County are tobacco free.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA:

SECTION 1. Centennial Park will be operated as a tobacco-free environment, and no person may use any form of tobacco at the Centennial Park facilities including, but not limited to, any permanent or portable toilets, spectator and concession areas, parking lot, athletic fields, trails, and any future recreation facilities (e.g. playgrounds, boulder feature, picnic shelter, bike park, and dog park).

SECTION 2. The City of Helena Parks and Recreation Department will utilize community resources to undertake community awareness and education efforts regarding the tobacco-free policy in Centennial Park. Such efforts may include, but are not limited to, installation of tobacco-free signs and postings in appropriate areas in the park and parking lot, and notification of the community at large, especially park user

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groups, and neighboring businesses/organizations concerning the existence of the tobacco-free policy.

PASSED AND EFFECTIVE BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA, THIS 3rd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2012.

/S/ James E. Smith
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/S/ Debbie Havens
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION