

RESOLUTIONS OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA

RESOLUTION NO. 20551

A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING VOLUNTARY OUTDOOR SMOKE-FREE AREAS AND ENHANCED PRACTICES TO REDUCE OUTDOOR SECONDHAND SMOKE EXPOSURE IN PUBLIC PLACES

WHEREAS, this resolution is in direct support of and aligned with the Montana Clean Indoor Air Act Implementation Protocol for Lewis and Clark County adopted November 16, 2009, by the Lewis and Clark City-County Board of Health;

WHEREAS, according to the aforementioned protocol, "smoking may not occur within a reasonable distance of an enclosed public place such that tobacco smoke may enter through its entrances, windows, ventilation systems or other accesses and circulate to non-smoking areas";

WHEREAS, according to the aforementioned protocol, "smoke means: a) the gaseous products (which carry airborne toxic particles) of burning tobacco or something similar to tobacco, or b) the fumes and/or vapor (which carry airborne toxic particles) resulting from the action of heat on a liquid such as occurs in an e-cigarette";

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

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WHEREAS, smoke-free environments eliminate all smoking in common outdoor places of gathering, such as parks, community events and other public use areas such as city streets and sidewalks, and are a proven way to protect people from secondhand smoke;

WHEREAS, used smoking 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, community surveys and assessment results indicate community support for the continued promotion of healthy activities and community wellness;

WHEREAS, the Lewis and Clark City-County Board of Health recommends the City of Helena establish public-private partnerships in support of adopting enhanced smoke-free practices intended to protect public health by reducing instances of outdoor secondhand smoke within the City of Helena;

WHEREAS, the City of Helena seeks support from Helena area residents, including private property and business owners, to responsibly designate smoke-free outdoor areas on their private property and at their places of business such that all patrons,

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employees, passersby and the greater Helena community alike are further protected from outdoor secondhand smoke; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Helena City Commission to provide for the public health, safety and welfare of the Helena community by discouraging the inherently dangerous behavior of smoking around non-smokers, especially children; by protecting the public from exposure to outdoor secondhand smoke where they live, work and play; and by affirming and promoting a healthy environment in the City of Helena.

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

Section 1. Property and business owners are encouraged to voluntarily undertake the establishment of enhanced smoke-free practices above and beyond current laws and protocols. Such as adopting outdoor smoke-free areas thereby helping to ensure enhanced compliance with the Lewis and Clark Clean Indoor Air Act Implementation Protocol and reducing the potential for outdoor exposure to secondhand smoke by the residents and visitors of Helena.

Section 2. Property and business owners voluntarily

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adopting enhanced smoke-free practices are asked to post in conspicuous places approved signage that can be easily read and understood notifying the public of these smoke-free areas; and, when applicable, identifying designated smoking area(s).

Section 3. The City of Helena and Lewis and Clark Public Health will utilize community and state resources to undertake community awareness and education efforts and provide technical assistance and resources regarding outdoor smoke-free practices within the City of Helena. Such efforts may include: the provision of signs and postings, educational and training materials, and sample practices made available to property and business owners, and notification to the community at large, about the existence of this outdoor smoke-free resolution and educational opportunities that exist.

**PASSED AND EFFECTIVE BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HELENA,
MONTANA, THIS 12th DAY OF AUGUST, 2019.**

/S/ WILMOT COLLINS
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/S/ DEBBIE HAVENS
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION