

EXHIBIT NO. 1


17
3-10-09

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 6, 2009

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISH A POLICY THAT WOULD LIMIT CITY CONTRACTS TO FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS THAT ARE SMOKE-FREE - ITEM # 17

This item is being deferred until the March 24 City Council legislative meeting so that staff can have additional discussion about the resolution.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 4, 2009

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER *J*

SUBJ: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISH POLICY THAT WOULD LIMIT CITY CONTRACTS TO FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS THAT ARE SMOKE-FREE

ISSUE: Establishing a City policy that would limit food and catering contracts for City-sponsored meetings, conferences and events to food service establishments that are smoke-free.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council adopt the attached resolution which outlines a City policy that would limit food and catering contracts for City-sponsored meetings, conferences and events to food service establishments that have adopted a completely smoke-free policy.

DISCUSSION: Approximately four months ago, the Environmental Health Work Group was established as the fourth work group of the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria. As you know, the mission of the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria is to promote a safe and healthy Alexandria through coalition building, collaborative planning and community action.

The Partnership was formed in April 2006 to focus on health concerns that arose from the City of Alexandria's first Community Health Assessment. Based on existing data and surveys of Alexandria residents, the Community Health Assessment Steering Committee established a priority list for action. As a result, the four work groups -- Healthy Lifestyles, the Anti-Stigma Mental Health Hope Campaign, the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria, and Environmental Health -- were created to address those health priorities, with the Environmental Health Work Group the most recently formed of the four.

The primary goal of the Environmental Health Work Group is to develop a set of strategies and interventions to implement some of the critical recommendations emanating from the Alexandria Community Health Assessment and the Alexandria Community Environmental Health Assessment with respect to two broad areas of public policy: Respiratory Health and Built Environment. The Work Group has met on six

separate occasions and, at its meeting on October 22, 2008, reached a consensus on a policy resolution, which it is recommending to City Council for consideration.

In discussing this resolution, members of the Work Group felt that this policy would be a natural extension of the City's long-standing support of a smoke-free Alexandria and the Alexandria "Proud to Be Smoke Free Restaurant Program." This program was originally created as part of a *Tobacco Cessation and Awareness* project from a VDH-Tobacco Settlement grant.

Since the "Proud To Be Smoke Free" program's inception, 294 of a total of 392 restaurants in Alexandria have pledged to maintain smoke-free environments. Of the restaurants that are smoke-free, approximately 34 percent are full-service. These full-service restaurants are particularly important to target as they are where customers are exposed to tobacco smoke for extended periods of time.

The proposed resolution was endorsed unanimously by members of the Environmental Health Work Group at its October 22, 2008, meeting. The resolution received the endorsement of the Executive Steering Committee of the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria, as well. It supports the *Environment and Health* principle outlined in the Eco-City Charter by the Environmental Policy Commission, which was adopted by City Council in 2008. The proposed resolution was discussed and adopted unanimously by the Alexandria Public Health Advisory Commission at its November 20, 2008, meeting.

This resolution was considered and adopted by the various groups mentioned above several weeks prior to the recent enactment of the landmark statewide smoking ban in Virginia's bars and restaurants enacted by the General Assembly. Many may assume that the need for this resolution was made moot by the new state law. However, this is not the case, since there are many exceptions in the new state law which will permit smoking to continue in some bars and restaurants. The major exceptions include:

- In any outdoor area of a restaurant without screened walls, roll-up doors, windows, or other seasonal or temporary enclosures;
- In a portion of a restaurant that is structurally separated (floor to ceiling walls and a door) AND has a separate ventilation system; and
- Caterers, if there is no on-premises facility for patrons

This proposed resolution will continue to demonstrate Alexandria's leadership on health issues and will put Alexandria clearly on record in support of all businesses preparing or serving food being totally smoke-free.

ATTACHMENT: Proposed Resolution

STAFF:

Michele Evans, Deputy City Manager
Lisa Kaplowitz, MD, MSHA, Health Director

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, respiratory illness (including emphysema, chronic bronchitis, lung cancer, and asthma) affects more than one in eight Alexandria residents; and

WHEREAS, tobacco smoke is the greatest single cause of respiratory illness; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Surgeon General, secondhand smoke (smoke from a burning cigarette and the smoke exhaled by the smoker) represents a dangerous health hazard, of which there is no risk-free level of exposure;

WHEREAS, a recent government study of the impact of a municipal smoke-free ordinance in the city of Pueblo, Colorado, over a three-year period demonstrated a significant reduction in hospitalization for acute myocardial infarction; and

WHEREAS, 72.2% of Alexandria residents reported that they were concerned about tobacco smoke in the 2007 Community Environmental Health Assessment; and

WHEREAS, the 2007 Community Environmental Health Assessment ranked indoor air quality as the number one issue of concern; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Health Work Group of the *Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria* has prioritized promoting smoke-free environments as a primary strategy for addressing respiratory illness, and has reinvigorated the "Smoke Free Alexandria" initiative (previously called "Proud to Be Smoke-Free"); and

WHEREAS, three hundred and twenty-eight of a total of 392 restaurants in Alexandria have already voluntarily pledged to maintain smoke-free environments; and

WHEREAS, "Environment and Health" is a guiding principle of the Eco-City Charter, and Phase 1 of the Environmental Action Plan cites goals to improve indoor air quality health in both new and existing workplaces by improving ventilation and reducing exposure to air contaminants such as secondhand smoke to promote respiratory health;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Alexandria hereby agrees to establish a City policy to contract only with smoke-free food service establishments (i.e., no smoking is allowed on any part of their premises) for the provision of food and beverages for meetings, conferences and other City-sponsored events.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Alexandria hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute any agreements necessary to advance this project.

ADOPTED: _____

WILLIAM D. EUILLE **MAYOR**

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk

17
3-10-09



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03/05/2009 06:52 AM

Please respond to
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Subject COA Contact Us: Proposed Ordinance to Buy From Smoke Free
Food Establishments

Time: [Thu Mar 05, 2009 06:52:32] IP Address: [20.137.18.51]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

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Subject: Proposed Ordinance to Buy From Smoke Free Food Establishments

First of all, you all have a fiduciary responsibility to spend taxpayer

money in the most cost efficient way possible. Do you mean that you are
willing to spend extra money to buy something just because it is from a

Comments: smoke free establishment? Also, I believe that the state has already
passed some legislation that requires food establishments to be smoke free,
rendering your proposed resolution meaningless. Don't we have anything
important to talk about during the Council meetings????