

RESOLUTION NO. 19-_____

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
THE HEALTHY LIFE CENTER BOND REFERENDUM VOTE
FOR THE CITY OF AMES, IOWA**

WHEREAS, the Ames City Council is committed to creating a one-of-a-kind Healthy Life Center that will help in making the life-long goal of healthy living accessible and enjoyable to people of all ages and socio-economic status in Ames and Story County; and,

WHEREAS, the Healthy Life Center represents an unprecedented partnership among the City of Ames, Mary Greeley Medical Center, Iowa State University, Heartland Senior Services, Story County, and Des Moines Area Community College; and,

WHEREAS, 41%, or \$20,000,000, out of the approximately \$49,000,000 needed to construct the project has been committed from private contributors and government entities; and,

WHEREAS, the Healthy Life Center is planned to house a participation kitchen, multi-purpose courts, café, indoor aquatics center (with therapeutic pool, water slides, lap pool, and zero-depth basin with a lazy river), cardio vascular equipment, walking track, meeting rooms, indoor/outdoor playgrounds, rehabilitation equipment, senior service facilities, and community garden; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Ames has been transparent regarding the development of the Healthy Life Center, holding numerous meetings since November 2016 to discuss the evolution of the concept, providing financial projections for the facility, and has given careful consideration to the risks associated with moving forward with the project; and,

WHEREAS, local government plays a primary role in providing quality-of-life amenities to a community that oftentimes require tax support for their operations, e.g., Ada Hayden Heritage Park, Furman Aquatic Center, Ames Public Library, and the City Hall Auditorium/Community Center; and,

WHEREAS, amenities that enhance the quality-of-life in a community benefit everyone, make a city vibrant, and help attract new jobs, families, and retirees to a community; this results in increased property and sales tax revenues, school populations, and more social capital; and,

WHEREAS, these quality-of-life amenities will serve to bolster the City's ability to provide exceptional public services to everyone who lives in and visits Ames.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ames City Council is unanimous in its support of the Healthy Life Center and encourages our citizens to vote YES on September 10th!

ADOPTED THIS 27th day of August, 2019.

Diane R. Voss, City Clerk

John A. Haila, Mayor

Introduced by:

Seconded by:

Voting aye:

Voting nay:

Absent:

Resolution declared adopted and signed by the Mayor this 27th day of August, 2019.