

RESOLUTION NO. 3618

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SAFE ROUTES TO HEALTHY FOOD IN EMPORIA, KANSAS**

**WHEREAS**, food systems impact health inequities, economic inequities, food deserts and food imbalance;

**WHEREAS**, Safe Routes to Healthy Food provides important health, safety, and environmental benefits for residents, including reducing risk of obesity/chronic disease and pedestrian/bicycle injuries as well as improving air quality;

**WHEREAS**, Safe Routes to Healthy Food aims to increase the number of residents engaged in active transportation when traveling to healthy food sources such as grocery stores, farmers markets, community gardens, food pantries and community kitchens by helping fund infrastructure projects that directly increase safety and convenience for the public walking and/or biking to healthy food sources, and non-infrastructure projects designed to encourage the public to walk and bike to healthy food sources;

**WHEREAS**, the need for Safe Routes to Healthy Food projects are especially strong in low-income areas, which suffer from a disproportionately high increase of both obesity/chronic disease and pedestrian and bicycle injuries and often have inferior pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure;

**WHEREAS**, a goal of the Emporia/Lyon County Joint Comprehensive Plan is to connect areas of the community and to improve the bicycle and pedestrian network by where In-town bikeways, or main street bikeways, are boulevards, avenues, and main streets that carry vehicular as well as bicycle traffic. On busier streets, bike lanes with a 5' width are appropriate to allow for a smooth traffic flow. On low volume and low traffic streets, bikeways are designated by "sharrows", arrows that mark the paved surface to signal to bicyclists and vehicles to share the road, which can be met in part by implementation of Safe Routes to Healthy Food projects;

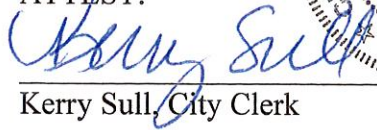
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Emporia affirms its commitment to active transportation and supports Safe Routes to Healthy Food infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects with the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Pathways grant funds;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City of Emporia agrees that it will spend all Blue Cross/Blue Shield Pathways grant funds on Safe Routes to Healthy Food projects and none of these funds will be transferred to any other program, fund, or account;

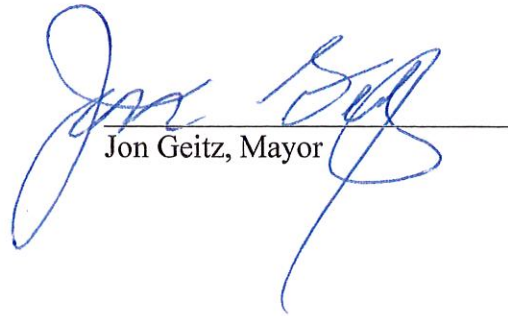
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City of Emporia shall take steps to ensure that demonstrated low-income areas are prioritized in the process of awarding the Safe Routes to Healthy Food infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects, including establishing plans and goals for equitable participation of community members from these areas, prioritization of applications from low-income areas, and development of matching funds for these communities. Nothing in this resolution shall be construed to mean that the City of Emporia is addressing food-based health disparities through its licensing, permitting or regulatory approval processes

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Body of the City of Emporia, Kansas this 3rd day of April 2019.

ATTEST:

  
Kerry Sull, City Clerk



  
Jon Geitz, Mayor