

Resolution No. 09A-22

RESOLUTION: To transition the City of Rockville to more accessible and gender-inclusive restrooms in City-owned buildings.

WHEREAS, the Washington DC metropolitan region, including Montgomery County and the City of Rockville, is home to a wonderfully diverse population; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville supports and fosters a welcoming, socially equitable and inclusive community for everyone regardless of ability, gender, gender identity, class, country of origin, religious group, veteran status, income status, sexual orientation or expression; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey reported that one in ten respondents has been denied access to a public restroom because of their gender identity or gender expression; and

WHEREAS, families with small children who are too young to use restrooms by themselves often face a difficult decision when it comes to using sex-segregated public restrooms; and

WHEREAS, adults who are taking care of an elderly parent or assisting a person with a disability also often face the difficult decision when it comes to using sex-segregated public restrooms; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville has the ability to positively affect the accessibility for anyone to use a single-user public restroom in City-owned facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville maintains public restrooms in facilities throughout the city; and

WHEREAS, public restrooms are used by a variety of community members and visitors, who may not identify or express as a binary gender, or who may be experiencing a gender affirmation, or who may have special needs based on ability, family status, or other characteristics; and

WHEREAS, the City will be considering updating its plumbing and building codes by adopting both the 2021 International Plumbing Code and 2021 International Building Code and will include language referencing all gender restrooms and insuring equitable bathroom access; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville is committed to planning and fostering an environment that provides equitable access to restroom facilities for everyone, regardless of individual ability; and

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WHEREAS, the City of Rockville is committed to planning and constructing facilities that provide equitable access to restroom facilities for everyone, inclusive of caregivers of different gender, or parents with children of different gender who may require assistance using a public restroom; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville is dedicated to decreasing barriers, encouraging full community inclusion, and strengthening dignity and personal safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of Rockville that the City of Rockville will continue to transition City-owned facilities to include accessible All Gender restrooms, thereby providing equity in access to restrooms for all; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rockville staff responsible for the design, construction, renovation, and maintenance of City-owned facilities should make every effort to incorporate All Gender restrooms whenever constructing or renovating public restrooms in City-owned facilities.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council at its meeting of June 27, 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sara Taylor-Ferrell", is written over a horizontal line.

Sara Taylor-Ferrell,
City Clerk/Director of Council Operations