



**TOWN OF APPOMATTOX,
VIRGINIA**

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-__

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION IN THE SHARE THE
AIR PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Town Council has received information regarding the Share The Air program, a voluntary public education and signage program intended to encourage tobacco-free, vape-free, and smokeless-tobacco-free parks, playgrounds, trails, athletic fields, shelters, and other outdoor public spaces; and

WHEREAS, the program is presented as a voluntary compliance effort and does not, by itself, create a criminal offense, civil penalty, enforceable local ordinance, or mandatory enforcement process; and

WHEREAS, potential benefits of voluntary participation may include no-cost signage and materials, support for cleaner parks and public spaces, reduced tobacco-related litter, alignment with youth tobacco prevention efforts, and a public health message related to secondhand smoke, vaping, asthma, and family-friendly outdoor areas; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council recognizes that Town staff resources are limited and that any implementation of a voluntary program must be administered within existing staffing, budgeted resources, and higher-priority Town responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to clearly distinguish voluntary program participation from the adoption of any enforceable ordinance, penalty structure, or staff enforcement obligation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Appomattox, Virginia, that:

1. Voluntary Participation Authorized. The Town Council hereby authorizes the Town of Appomattox to participate in the Share The Air program as a voluntary public education and signage program.

2. No Ordinance or Enforcement Created. This resolution does not create an enforceable ordinance, civil penalty, criminal violation, or independent enforcement obligation for Town staff. Participation shall be understood and communicated as voluntary and educational in nature.

3. Staff Role. The Town Manager, or the Town Manager's designee, is authorized to coordinate with Share The Air program representatives regarding available no-cost signage, educational materials, staff awareness materials, and appropriate public information. The Town Manager, or designee, is further authorized to complete and submit any required Share The Air sign-on or commitment form, provided that participation is understood and administered as a voluntary public education and signage program consistent with this resolution. Staff may place signage and share information in a manner determined administratively by the Town Manager or designee.

4. Staff Resources and Priorities. Implementation shall be carried out within existing staff capacity and budgeted resources. This program shall not take priority over core Town operations, public works, utility responsibilities, public safety coordination, agenda preparation, FOIA responsibilities, finance duties, or other higher-priority administrative functions. The Town Manager may phase, limit, defer, or adjust implementation as needed based on workload, operational needs, public safety, facility needs, and available staff capacity.

5. Questions and Complaints. If Town staff receive questions or complaints related to tobacco, vaping, or smokeless tobacco use in outdoor public areas, staff shall respond in an informational manner. Staff shall not be expected to issue citations, impose penalties, or engage in confrontational enforcement activity unless the Town Council later adopts a separate ordinance or formal policy after appropriate legal review.

6. Public Communication and Signage. Any public communication, signage, or educational material associated with participation should accurately describe the Town's participation as a voluntary public education and signage program. Materials may use Share The Air's standard tobacco-free, vape-free, and smokeless-tobacco-free program language, but should not imply that the Town has adopted a legally enforceable ordinance, citation process, civil penalty, criminal penalty, or mandatory enforcement program unless such action is separately adopted by the Town Council after appropriate legal review.

7. Town Name, Seal, Logo, or Public Identification. Any use of the Town's name, seal, logo, or public identification in Share The Air materials shall be reviewed and authorized by the Town prior to publication or distribution and shall accurately reflect the voluntary nature of the Town's participation.

8. Future Enforceable Policy. If the Town Council wishes to consider a mandatory restriction, ordinance, penalty, or enforcement mechanism beyond voluntary participation, that matter shall be reviewed separately by the Town Attorney before further Council action.

9. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this 8th day of June, 2026.

ATTEST:

TOWN OF APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA

Dianne Tanner, Deputy Town Clerk

Richard Conner, Mayor

SUGGESTED SIMPLE MOTIONS

The resolution above is drafted so Council can act with a simple motion. The following suggested motions may be used during the meeting:

Motion to Approve

I move to approve Resolution No. 2026-___ authorizing the Town of Appomattox to participate in the Share The Air program as a voluntary public education and signage program.

Motion to Deny

I move to deny Resolution No. 2026-___ regarding voluntary participation in the Share The Air program.

Motion to Defer

I move to defer action on Resolution No. 2026-___ regarding voluntary participation in the Share The Air program until a future meeting.

Note: If Council approves the resolution, staff implementation remains limited to voluntary public education, signage coordination, and non-enforcement activity as described in the resolution.