

## RESOLUTION NO. 1854

### A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE DISTRIBUTORS WASHINGTON SETTLEMENT PARTICIPATION FORM RELATED TO THE NATIONWIDE OPIOID LITIGATION

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**WHEREAS**, multiple states, counties, and cities throughout the nation have brought lawsuits over the last few years against various entities within the pharmaceutical supply chain who manufacture, distribute, and dispense prescription opioids (the “Opioid Distributors”); and

**WHEREAS**, after a 6-month trial at the close of the evidence, the State of Washington reached a settlement with the Opioid Distributors for up to \$518 million, with more than \$476 million to be directed toward addressing the opioid epidemic, paid over a 17-year period starting in December 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington cities and counties with populations over 10,000 can join this settlement, and if a sufficient number join, they will receive up to \$215 million that must be spent on efforts to combat the opioid epidemic; and

**WHEREAS**, a local government can either spend the money itself or elect to pool its money with other local governments on a regional basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the proceeds can only be used for approved purposes, such as treatment for opioid use disorder (“OUD”), support for people in treatment and recovery, providing connections to care for people who have—or are at risk of developing—OUD, addressing the needs of persons with OUD in the criminal justice system, training, and research; and

**WHEREAS**, in order for the settlement to be finalized, Washington local governments that filed suit against these opioid distributors need to sign the Participation Form releasing their claims and then dismiss them with prejudice, and ninety percent (90%) of Washington local governments with a population of over 10,000 that did not file a lawsuit against the Opioid Distributors (such as the City of Lake Forest Park) need to sign the Participation Form releasing their potential claims; and

**WHEREAS**, as of August 9, 2022, only 17 of the 125 cities and counties with populations over 10,00 have joined by signing the Participation Form, but if not enough join, the settlement is void and neither the State nor Washington cities or counties will get any settlement money; and

**WHEREAS**, almost all of the other states in the country have similar agreements already, and no other state (and their local governments) have decided not to approve the national settlement; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds it is in the best interest of the City to execute the Participation Form to ensure the settlement receives sufficient participation by local governments and to help combat the opioid epidemic in this State;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Lake Forest Park, as follows:

Section 1. AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT. The City Council of the City of Lake Forest Park authorizes the Mayor to sign the Distributors Washington Settlement Participation Form, included herewith as Attachment 1.

Section 2. CORRECTIONS. The City Clerk is authorized to make necessary corrections to this resolution including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, ordinance numbering, section/subsection numbers and any references thereto

**PASSED BY A MAJORITY VOTE** of the members of the Lake Forest Park City Council this \_\_\_ day of September , 2022.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Johnson  
Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matt McLean  
City Clerk

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK:  
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:  
RESOLUTION NO.: 1854