



Office of the Town Manager

Frank Cassidy

STAFF REPORT

Warrenton Town Council

Carter Nevill, Mayor

Heather Sutphin, Ward 1

William Semple, Ward 2

Brett Hamby, Ward 3

James Hartman, Ward 4 Vice Mayor

Jay Heroux, Ward 5

Paul Mooney, At Large

David McGuire, At Large

Council Meeting Date:	September 12, 2023
Agenda Title:	Share the Air Initiative
Requested Action:	Resolution at September Town Council Meeting
Department / Agency Lead:	Parks and Recreation
Staff Lead:	Kelly Koernig

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Share the Air Campaign promotes tobacco-free and e-cigarette free outdoor public spaces across Virginia. The Town of Warrenton is seeking a resolution to commit to the campaign, add the following language to be added to park rules "Avoid the use of tobacco and e-cigarettes within 50ft of any sporting event, spectators or gathering in parks", as well as approve signs to be installed at all town parks. This will help us align with and support the Plan Warrenton 2040 goal, P-1 Preserve, enhance, and protect the environmental, scenic, and natural quality of the town.

BACKGROUND

In Fall 2019, the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth's youth-led program "Y Street" launched the Share the Air Campaign. This campaign aims to create tobacco-free and e-cigarette-free outdoor areas and public spaces across the Commonwealth through voluntary policy adoption. Y Street members collected nearly 7,000 surveys in their local communities across Virginia to assess public perception of tobacco use and the harms of secondhand smoke and aerosol from vape products outdoors.

In Fall 2021, the Town of Warrenton Parks and Recreation Department was first approached by high school students from Y Street and we began discussions about bringing this campaign to the Town of Warrenton. The Town of Warrenton Parks and Recreation Department is ready to move forward with our commitment to the Share the Air campaign. We are seeking a resolution to commit to the campaign, add the following language to our park rules, "Avoid the use of tobacco and e-cigarettes within 50ft of any sporting event, spectators or gathering in parks" and install signage in our parks.

At the August 8, 2023 Council work session, a brief overview and presentation was given to council. The high school students from Y Street will present at the September evening meeting and we will seek approval from council to pass the resolution to commit to the campaign and implement voluntary tobacco free and e-cigarette free areas in town parks.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Resolution at the September Council Meeting

Service Level/Policy Impact

Promotion of healthy lifestyle and outdoor environment for our community. Plan Warrenton 2040 P-1 No direct policy impact.

Fiscal Impact

No direct fiscal impact

Legal Impact

No direct legal impact

ATTACHMENTS

1. Powerpoint Presentation
2. Commitment Form
3. Resolution