

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-25

PLEDGING COMMITMENT TO A LAND BANK POLICY FOR THE CITY OF CANEY, KANSAS REGARDING THE USE OF *PATHWAYS TO A HEALTHY KANSAS*, A BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF KANSAS GRANT DOLLARS.

WHEREAS, the City of Caney is responding to a funding opportunity through *Pathways to a Healthy Kansas (Pathways)*, a Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas (BCBSKS) initiative in partnership with the Montgomery County Wellness Coalition; and

WHEREAS, the City of Caney hereby affirms our commitment to taking on new opportunities that provide greater access to healthy living options for our community members benefiting from our work. We are aware our involvement helps to establish strong community norms for healthier living and are willing to learn more about making healthy environment and health policy changes to help community members live longer and better-quality lives; and

WHEREAS, the City of Caney acknowledges that we play an integral role in creating a walkable and bikeable community that has easy access to healthy food options that are affordable with public spaces that are free of commercial tobacco. Our position provides us with a significant opportunity to assist members of our community in leading healthier lives. We are committed to taking steps toward providing the healthiest possible environment in our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Caney has identified property located at: 117 W 4th Ave, Caney KS 67333. Boundary Description, S12, T35, R13, E 50' LTS 11 & 12 Lot width 50.0 Lot depth 100.0 will further our goal of providing a healthy community by cultivating a desired gathering space for cultural and community events, relaxation, and social connections in a tobacco free environment, including vaping; and

WHEREAS, the City of Caney has implemented a tobacco free parks policy with Resolution #1379 that covers this space and all city parks, and therefore will not allow use of tobacco products, including vape and e-cigarettes, and smokeless tobacco/chew within the park grounds and facilities, and will have signs posted to promote the space as commercial tobacco-free; and

WHEREAS, the City of Caney has assessed how individual parcels of land contribute to or impact inequities in the community and has found no racially restrictive covenants associated with this Land Bank property. The public space is an inclusive space, open to all residents and visitors of all ages and identified as a "rest stop" by older residents who walk to the local grocery store; and

WHEREAS, the project will be funded, in part, by a *Pathways* grant, which requires an emphasis and targeted benefit for "populations of focus" outlined by the BCBSKS; and

WHEREAS, the populations of focus for the project include Caney community members who are low-income, experience housing instability, and/or lack access to transportation; and

WHEREAS, Caney residents were surveyed through the Caney Valley Agape Food Network, which were considered low-income, and another group was surveyed at a Town Hall meeting; these residents identified several features that they would like to see, those being benches/tables, shade, bathroom, trees and flowers; and

WHEREAS, the City of Caney has explored the inclusion of an Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement on projects using Pathways dollars and has determined that the Caney Historical Museum will work with Montgomery County Wellness Coalition and the Caney Betterment Group to develop language for a remembrance plaque and statements to be read during events. This language will include historical context of the land, current Indigenous connection to the area and future efforts to rebuild Tribal Sovereignty in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Land Bank project will create a space of generational social connectedness and community gathering for public events such as music concerts, family and team gathering. To accomplish this, the park will have a 20 ft. X 25 ft. X 20 inch raised concrete platform with a covered roof, there will be a rough cedar privacy fence along the south side of the platform and west side of the concrete slab for safety, the concrete slab (with the exception of the platform) will be covered with artificial turf for multitasking of the area; and

WHEREAS, the Land Bank project will beautify and desired green space in an area that is a blighted lot where a downtown building once stood; this property is ideally located on the main street of downtown Caney, directly across from City Hall and where many new businesses have recently opened. It is also the centrally located for the Fourth and Live Concert series which occurs every fourth Saturday during the summer in downtown Caney; and

WHEREAS, the City of Caney has reviewed the property history for any racially restrictive covenants; the City Administrator and the Register of Deeds searched all property recordings at the above identified property and did not find any such racially restrictive covenants or language. If any such covenants are found to exist in the future, the City of Caney will work to legally have such language removed; and

WHEREAS, the City of Caney maintains commitment to *Pathways* priorities to the use of the land for at least 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Caney agrees that the *Pathways* dollars tied to land investments are only for spaces that are commercial tobacco free, including vaping; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of said project is at least \$30,000 and up to \$50,000, if additional funds become available as directed by Montgomery County Wellness Coalition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CANEY, KANSAS, THAT:

Section 1. The governing body of the Caney, Kansas hereby establishes a Land Bank Policy in relation to *Pathways* funds and commits to:

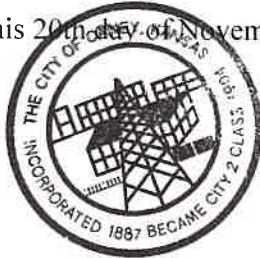
- 1) Apply for *Pathways* implementation funds, \$30,000 and up to \$50,000, if additional funds become available as directed by Montgomery County Wellness Coalition, to fund the project listed above.
- 2) Use *Pathways* dollars on the approved Land Bank project as outlined above.
- 3) Any remaining money needed for the park will come from the City of Caney Special Parks fund or the Tourism Fund.
- 4) Activate the approved project within two (2) years or less of receipt of *Pathways* funds; and
- 5) Maintain the project paid for with *Pathways* funds for 10 years after construction.

Adopted by the City of Caney on the 20th day of November 2023.

Section 2. This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

ADOPTED this 20th day of November 2023.

(SEAL)





Joshua Elliott, Mayor

ATTEST:


Amber Dean, Clerk

Approved as to form: 
Kelley Zellner, City Administrator

Approved for Commission action: 
Kelley Zellner, City Administrator