

**RESOLUTION NO. 1231**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK, WASHINGTON SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE-WIDE MEDICINE RETURN PROGRAM**

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**WHEREAS**, abuse of medicines by teenagers is a growing problem; and

**WHEREAS**, over half of the people using prescription drugs for nonmedical reasons obtained them from a friend or relative for free and 15% of 10th graders in Washington who abused prescription pain relievers got them from their own home or someone else's home without permission; and

**WHEREAS**, unwanted medicines left in the home could increase opportunities for drug abuse, drug diversion, and accidental poisonings; and

**WHEREAS**, unwanted medicines disposed to sanitary sewer systems are not completely treated by the wastewater treatment facilities, allowing pharmaceuticals to be released into the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, disposal of unwanted medicines to residential garbage is not secure and medicines in solid waste systems may end up in landfill leachate, which may be pumped to wastewater treatment facilities, eventually allowing pharmaceuticals to be released into the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, pharmaceuticals have been detected in the surface waters of Washington State and around the United States and in the drinking water of 24 major metropolitan areas affecting 41 million Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, currently local governments, retailers and taxpayers bear the financial burden for programs that dispose of unused medicines; and

**WHEREAS**, sustainable funding sources are needed to provide or continue operation of take-back programs for legally prescribed controlled substances at sheriff and police offices in Washington counties and cities; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Washington needs a statewide take-back program that is supported with funds from drug manufacturers.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** The City of Lake Forest Park supports establishment of a convenient, safe, secure, and environmentally sound medicine return program for unwanted medicines from households with pharmaceutical manufacturer financing that covers the cost of collection, transportation, and hazardous waste disposal that does not rely on local and state government funding.

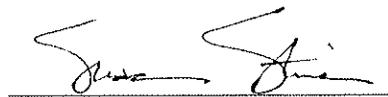
**Section 2.** The City of Lake Forest Park will continue to help educate residents about proper disposal options available in the community.

PASSED BY A MAJORITY VOTE of the members of the City of Lake Forest Park City Council this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2010 and signed into authentication this 19th day of November, 2010.

APPROVED:

  
Dwight A. Thompson, Deputy Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Susan Stine, City Clerk