The City of Traverse City

Office of the City Clerk

GOVERNMENTAL CENTER 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, MI 49684 (231) 922-4480 tcclerk@traversecitymi.gov



The City of Traverse City Resolution in Support of Accessible Gender Neutral Bathrooms

Because, the Human Rights Commission strives to ensure human dignity through

advocacy, education, negotiation, and information to ensure understanding and

respect among all residents of and visitors to Traverse City; and

Because, the Human Rights Commission was formed with a purpose to foster mutual

understanding and respect among all groups and to discourage discriminatory practices, to formulate and carry out programs of community education and information, receive and act as conciliator regarding occurrences of acts of prejudice or discrimination, and secure the cooperation of various community

groups in educational campaigns devoted to eliminating prejudice and

discrimination; and

Because, members of the community appeared at a public meeting on March 13, 2017, to

inform the Human Rights Commission of experiences of discrimination and prejudice and in support of an effort to ensure safe and accessible access to

public restrooms for all individuals; and

Because, members of the community shared personal stories of discrimination,

embarrassment, humiliation, and physical ailments from lack of available

gender-neutral, private and safe restrooms and changing areas; and

Because, discrimination, embarrassment, humiliation, and physical ailments are

unacceptable consequences of a person's gender transition, expression or

identity, or sexual orientation; and

Because, there are public restrooms maintained by the City of Traverse City; and

Because, public restrooms are used by a variety of community members and visitors, who

may not identify or express as a binary gender, or who may be experiencing a gender transition, or who may have special needs based on ability, family status,

or other characteristics; and

Because, this issue implicates equal protection issues under the Constitution as well as

federal laws such as Title VII and Title IX that prohibit discrimination on the

basis of sex; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Human Rights Commission conveyed to the City of Traverse City that it

is the will and desire of the community that public restrooms be made accessible

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to individuals on the basis of their personal gender identity or expression; and, further, be it

Resolved,

that the City of Traverse City will make effort to provide gender neutral bathrooms within facilities maintained by the City; and finally, be it

Resolved,

that the City of Traverse City encourages any business or entity that provides public restrooms to offer at least one gender neutral restroom in their place of business.

I hereby certify that the above resolution was adopted by the Traverse City City Commission at its Regular Meeting held on June 19, 2017, in the Commission Chambers of the Governmental Center, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, Michigan.

Katelyn Zeits, CMMO Deputy City Clerk