RESOLUTION NO. 2017-13

Establishing a Charles County Vending Machine Healthy Standards Policy

WHEREAS, the Charles County Government employs over 750 people. Reducing the impact of diet-related diseases will support a more productive and healthy workforce that will pay dividends to the county and state economy and cultivate national competitiveness for residents and employees; and

WHEREAS, improving the nutritional quality of food sold in vending machines operated by the County and on public property will support people in making healthy eating choices; and,

WHEREAS, many local and state residents and visitors visit County buildings and affiliated agency buildings; and

WHEREAS, approximately 31.3% of Charles County residents are obese; and,

WHEREAS, approximately 38.2% of Charles County residents are overweight; and,

WHEREAS, overweight and obesity costs Charles County Government over $150,000 each year in health care costs, contributing to debilitating yet preventable diseases such as heart disease, cancer, stroke, and diabetes; and,

WHEREAS, improving the types of foods and beverages served from vending machines and sold in workplaces positively affects employees’ eating behaviors and can result in weight loss and overall improvement in health; and,

WHEREAS, maintaining a healthy workforce can positively impact indirect costs by reducing absenteeism and increasing worker productivity;

WHEREAS, the County Administrator Office has advised that a County Administrator policy will be issued to implement the initiative to include more healthy food options in vending machines located in County owned buildings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this ____ day of _____ 2017, that the County Commissioners of Charles County endorse the implementation of the County initiative to increase the amount of healthy food options offered in vending machines that are located in County buildings.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
Charles County Government Vending Machine Healthy Standards Policy

Definitions

(1) “Healthy and Contract Standards” means evidence-based guidelines for snack and cold beverage vending machine services that meet the nationally-recognized standards of the American Heart Association (AHA) Healthy workplace Food and Beverage Toolkit guidance on Vending Machines and Meetings and Events for vending machines and meet the standards of the General Services Administration (GSA) Food Service guidelines for Federal Facilities for meetings, events, on-site vendors, and cafeterias.

(2) “Covered Snack and Cold Beverages” means all vending machine snacks and cold beverages purchased, sold, served or otherwise vended at machines located at Charles County Government Buildings.

As used in this Article, the following terms have the meanings indicated:

Packaged means bottled, canned, securely bagged, or securely wrapped, whether packaged in a food establishment or a food processing plant.

Vending Machine means a self-service machine offered for public use that, upon insertion of a coin, paper, currency, token, card, or key, or by optional manual operation, dispenses servings of snacks or beverages in bulk or in packages, or prepared by the machine, without the necessity of replenishing the device between each vended operation.

Applicability

This applies only to County vending machine service contracts for vending machines located on property owned by the County unless excluded in writing by a County Representative, as designated by the County Administrator.

Healthy Vending Machine Product Standards

1. Snacks:
   a) An item designated as a healthy snack choice must have:
      • No more than 200 calories per package;
      • Less than 35% of total calories from fat, except for foods containing 100% nuts or seeds with no added fats;
      • No more than 0.5 grams of trans-fat per serving
      • Less than 10% of calories from saturated fat;
      • No more than 35% of calories from total sugars, except for 1%, 2% or non-fat dairy products, non-dairy milk products, fruits, and vegetables.
      • No more than 200 milligrams of sodium per package
b) At least one healthy snack choice offered in a vending machine must meet the Food and Drug Administration’s definition of “low sodium”.

c) Sugarless chewing gum and mints must also meet the nutritional standards.

2. **Cold Beverages:**
   a) An item designated as a healthy cold beverage must:
      - Have Fewer than 40 calories per serving unless specified in item “b)” below:

   b) Other acceptable item standards:
      - Be either Fat-free or 1% low fat dairy milk
      - Have Calcium or Vitamin D fortified soy milk with less than 200 calories per container
      - Fruit juice containers with 12 ounces or less shall be 100% fruit juice;
      - Vegetable juice containers with 12 ounces or less shall contain less than 230 milligrams of sodium per serving; or
      - Fruit juice combined with water with no added caloric sweeteners and no more than 200 milligrams of sodium per container.

   c) Water without added calorie sweeteners must be stocked in all cold beverage vending machines.

3. **Additional Standards for both Snack and Cold Beverage vended machines/items:**
   a) Shall be displayed in a way that is distinguishable from snack and cold beverage items that do not meet these standards.

   b) Shall be stocked in positions with highest selling potential, as determined by the County Representative.

   c) Snack and cold beverage vended items that meet the Healthy Vending Machine Product Standards described above must be comparatively priced or less expensive than other vended products that do not meet the standards.

   d) Vending machines must display nutritional labeling that complies with the standards for nutritional labeling set forth in 21 Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 101 and 109, or any successor provision and any other local, state, and federal regulations applicable for vending machine services.

**Vending Machine Service Contract Requirements**

   a) Any new vending machine service contract or vending machine service contract renewal the County enters into on or after July 1, 2017, must require that at least 50%
of the food and beverage items offered for sale in vending machines meet the
requirements in the Healthy Vending Machine Product Standards described above.

b) Any new vending machine service contract or vending machine service contract
renewal that the County enters into on or after July 1, 2020, must require that at least
65% of the food and beverage items offered for sale in vending machines meet the
requirements in the Healthy Vending Machine Product Standards described above.

From time to time, but at least once every five (5) years, the County Administrator shall review,
and if necessary, revise and update the nutrition and procurement standards to reflect
advancements in nutrition science, dietary data, new product availability, and/or updates to the
Dietary Guidelines for Americans.