



City of Charles Town

101 East Washington Street, P.O. Box 14, Charles Town, WV 25414
 Phone: (304) 725-2311 ♦ Web: www.charlestownwv.us

A Resolution Supporting the Expansion of the YMCA into Jefferson County

WHEREAS, the top need identified by most leaders of Jefferson County is activities for kids and families, early-career single adults, and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson County local governments have consistently recognized the need to expand both recreational opportunities and child care programs to support residents; and

WHEREAS, when choosing a location, businesses rate quality-of-life features like recreation and child care facilities as highly important; and

WHEREAS, the average wait time between seeking child care and receiving a placement in Jefferson County is 13.3 months; and

WHEREAS, the average wait time for child care far exceeds the neighboring counties-- Berkeley County, WV, at 6 months, and Frederick, MD, at 3 months; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the public-at-large and Shepherd University students, the area's six high school swim teams (Berkeley and Jefferson counties) must share the Shepherd University pool facility, resulting in limited and truncated practice times for each team; and

WHEREAS, the YMCA is the nation's largest provider of child care programs; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson County is serviced by only one, year-round public pool (Shepherd University); and

WHEREAS, the YMCA is the largest pool management agency in the world; and

WHEREAS, West Virginia University Medicine identified three, main health priorities as part of their December 2022 Community Needs Assessment for Berkeley Medical Center and Jefferson Medical Center: substance use and abuse (drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vaping), obesity and chronic disease (including cancer), and mental health; and

WHEREAS, the YMCA programs mitigate negative health outcomes by providing health and wellness training and classes for all ages from pre-natal to senior; and


WHEREAS, the YMCA has a variety of opportunities for families and kids including: swimming lessons, free lifeguard training, cooking classes, teens night out, chess club, art classes, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) programs, dance classes, sports leagues, and homeschool programming; and

WHEREAS, the YMCA has a variety of opportunities for early-career single adults such as: adult culinary classes, adult acting classes, introduction to watercolor painting, adult sports teams, fitness classes, and more; and

WHEREAS, the YMCA has a variety of opportunities for seniors including all of the adult programs and: massage (including oncology massage), senior social breakfast, lunch and learns such as “Managing Hip Pain” and “Breast Cancer Awareness,” senior yoga, warm water exercise classes, etc.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Charles Town does hereby support a YMCA expansion into Jefferson County as a means to address the significant childcare needs, lack of access to aquatic facilities and programs, and need for healthy community activities.

Adopted the 6 day of SEPTEMBER, 2023.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert M. Trainor", written over a horizontal line.

Robert M. Trainor
Mayor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Nissel", written over a horizontal line.

John Nissel
City Clerk