

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK IN WASHTENAW COUNTY  
APRIL 3 THROUGH APRIL 9, 2006: "DESIGNING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES,  
RAISING HEALTHY KIDS"

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 15, 2006

WHEREAS, in the United States the modern built environment- our neighborhood design, roads, sidewalks and buildings- is having detrimental effects on the health of our nation's children; and

WHEREAS, in many communities, the built environment has virtually eliminated healthy lifestyle behaviors such as walking or bicycling as a means of transportation; and

WHEREAS, children who live close enough to school to walk often do not because of the absence of sidewalks in their community; and

WHEREAS, lack of access to fresh foods has contributed to increases in childhood obesity and disturbing health disparities in underserved communities; and

WHEREAS, healthy communities for children are on the verge of being engineered out of existence; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County residents are increasing their understanding of the relationship between the built environment and the health of children and promoting strategies to improve children's health; and

WHEREAS, many planning bodies and communities are taking steps to improve the built environment with better public transit, bicycle paths, sidewalks, and more parks; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County Public Health staff provide expertise and resources to community groups so that they can do their part to raise healthy kids by designing and building healthier communities; and

WHEREAS, "Designing Healthy Communities, Raising Healthy Kids" is the theme of the 2006 National Public Health Week campaign;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the week of April 3-9, 2006 as Public Health Week "Designing Healthy Communities, Raising Healthy Kids" in Washtenaw County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners expresses its appreciation for the ongoing contributions of County staff, individuals and organizations who make up our public health system and carry out this important work.