



November 14, 2017

Common Council
City of Appleton
100 N. Appleton Street
Appleton, WI 54911

Dear Council Members,

On behalf of ThedaCare health system, I am writing to express our support for the Health in All Policies approach under consideration by the Common Council.

We look to the City of Appleton as a partner in improving health in the community. We do so because more than 80% of what creates health has little to do with what happens inside our hospital and clinic walls. Health is created in our homes, workplaces, schools, places of worship, recreational spaces, city streets, and more. It happens every day in places that you help create. Having access to well-lit streets encourages walking. Having streets marked for biking increases biking to work. Community policing reduces violence in communities. Proper sanitation prevents disease outbreaks. Transportation keeps the elderly from isolation and depression. The list goes on and this ordinance will further engage key stakeholders and those within our community that don't have voice to work together.

As partners in community health, we encourage you to go the next step in your already strong progression of health improvement efforts. We encourage you to adopt a Health in All Policies Ordinance. Doing so will break down more barriers and identify opportunities to help stem the tide of chronic disease, lessen health inequality and inequity, impact environmental conditions and encourage optimal health for Appleton citizens. The potential benefits are innumerable! This vote will help solidify Appleton's reputation as a forward-thinking, responsible, collaborative community with the health and well-being of its citizens the primary goal.

Appleton is an amazing place to call home because our community leaders do "the right thing" for their citizens. A Health in All Policy approach is one of those "right things."

Thank you for your leadership.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paula Morgen", with a long, sweeping underline that extends across the page.

Paula Morgen
Director of Community Health