

Resolution Number \_\_\_\_\_

**A resolution of the Missoula City Council requesting the Missoula County Commission adopt a resolution and referral to the people of Missoula County for authorization of a crisis services levy to pay costs of services to support people experiencing mental health, addiction, or housing crisis, and to facilitate criminal justice reforms.**

**WHEREAS**, the Missoula City Council recognizes that local government has an increased role in providing intervention services to support people experiencing mental health, addiction, or housing crises, and to facilitate criminal justice reforms; and

**WHEREAS**, through Missoula City and County programs, healthcare organizations, non-profit and business partners we have established a continuum of care response to meet people where they have needs, stabilize individuals in crisis, and work to secure housing for those who are houseless or in danger of becoming so, helping people achieve independence and get back on their feet; and

**WHEREAS**, the Crime Victim Advocate program helps uphold the rights of victims, increases trust in the justice system, and aided more than 1,000 people in fiscal year 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mobile Support Team responded to 1,495 calls for service in fiscal year 2022 and was able to resolve and keep more than 60 percent of clients in their environment and not taken to the emergency room or arrested; and

**WHEREAS**, Operation Shelter Programs including the Emergency Winter Shelter, Temporary Safe Outdoor Space, and the Authorized Camp Site have addressed the immediate needs of hundreds of our neighbors experiencing homelessness, have reduced suffering and have saved both lives and money; and

**WHEREAS**, Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and other grant funds allowed the City of Missoula and Missoula County to fund programs that facilitate an appropriate response for individuals experiencing mental health crisis and substance use disorders, and to provide shelter options for the unhoused; and

**WHEREAS**, after fiscal year 2023, ARPA funds will no longer be available; and

**WHEREAS**, the City and County need a dedicated funding source to continue the successful programs above and provide additional services for people in crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2021 City of Missoula survey asked Missoula voters questions about “access to mental health services, such as crisis intervention.” The results showed that only 39 percent of Missoula voters were satisfied with current access to these services, 83 percent thought these services were important, and 71 percent supported increased funding; and

**WHEREAS**, in the same survey, homelessness was identified one of the top problems facing people in the city of Missoula today;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Missoula, Montana that it hereby requests that the Missoula County Commission adopt a resolution and referral to the people of Missoula County for authorization of a crisis services levy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City of Missoula will work with Missoula County to create an Interlocal Agreement to manage the crisis services funds.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

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Martha L. Rehbein  
Legislative Services Director/City Clerk

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John Engen  
Mayor