

RESOLUTION for [Municipality]

WHEREAS, The air quality of Northeastern Illinois affects the health and well-being of all the residents of the metropolitan region; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards, our region is currently a non-attainment zone for ozone, and it appears likely that the region will be declared in non-attainment for fine particulates; and

WHEREAS, idling motor vehicles contribute to toxic air emissions and Idling a medium-duty gasoline vehicle for five minutes each day can emit as much as 30 lbs of harmful pollutants and 300 lbs of carbon dioxide in a year; and

WHEREAS, according the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, diesel exhaust contains both very small particles and 40 chemicals that are classified as “hazardous air pollutants” under the Clean Air Act; and

WHEREAS, each of us take 20,000 breaths each day and children breathe 50% more air per pound than adults and children’s asthma symptoms, the leading cause of school absences, increase as a result of car exhaust; and

WHEREAS, encouraging drivers to turn off their engines when idle can decrease toxic emissions that cause pollution and ozone and, as a result, make the air healthier to breathe; and

WHEREAS, local and regional partnerships that unite government, schools, businesses, and residents, in a voluntary effort to reduce harmful emissions of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds, can effectively improve regional air quality; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE VILLAGE/CITY/TOWNSHIP/COUNTY OF _____ commits to participating in the “Idling Gets Us Nowhere” campaign of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus’ Clean Air Counts program and encourages local residents to turn off their engines wherever they live, work or play especially around schools and parks; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE VILLAGE/CITY/TOWNSHIP/COUNTY pledges to work with local schools to engage students in the effort to get residents not to idle and to recognize their efforts at a regular meeting of the board.