

Resolution 2026-39

A Resolution in Support of the City of New Castle Pursuing a Competitive Grant Application for the National Fitness Campaign Related Grant Applications to Fund the Project, and Commitment of Capital Funds to the Project

WHEREAS, National Fitness Campaign has been in existence for decades and is the nations largest public and private wellness Partnership that is committed to working with municipalities, sponsors and organizations and has provided healthy infrastructure in building over 700 facilities in 40 different states. NFC seeks to help combat the burdens of sedentary lifestyles by helping to provide expertise, funding, master planning and community building with the goal of brining a Fitness Court within a 10-minute bike ride of every American; and

WHEREAS, The City of New Castle seeks to submit a formal Grant Application to National Fitness Campaign (NFC) for participation in their Campaign 2027 initiative to be the first site in Delaware to install and activate an outdoor Fitness Court; and

WHEREAS, The Delaware Division of Public Health reported in 2022 that 37.9 percent of Delaware Adults reported being obese and another 33.9 percent reported BMIs considered “overweight”. This problem has been found to increase heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, sleep apnea and infertility, etc.; and

WHEREAS, Meta, a social media company recently acknowledged its negative role in the mental health and addiction crisis facing teens by agreeing to pay an \$18 billion dollar settlement because it contributed to low self-esteem, body dysmorphia and suicide; and

WHEREAS, The Center For Disease Control indicates that being physically active increases the chances of living longer, managing chronic conditions, helps strengthen bones and muscles and contributes to better physical, mental and emotional health; and

WHEREAS, the City of New Castle recognizes that over 80% of health is influenced outside of the health care system and that it has a role in promoting the well-being of its citizens that consist of its most precious asset.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of New Castle hereby resolves that the City Council supports the City Administrator in pursuing competitive grant applications with National Fitness Campaign and other grant opportunities to fund the project.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that City Council also supports the use of some capital funds in support of this vital condition of community and the betterment of the common.

PASSED this 8th day of September, 2026.

Suzanne Souder, City Council President

Joseph F. Day, III, Councilperson

Andrew Zeltt, Councilperson

Nermin Zubaca, Councilperson

Brian Mattaway, Councilperson

Attest:

Courtaney Taylor, City Clerk

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