



RESOLUTION NO. 18-18

WHEREAS, Americans have recognized since 1776 that Governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed; and

WHEREAS, Crestwood residents formed a Constitutional Charter City by a vote of the people, imbued with all of the powers the state legislature has to grant to municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Crestwood Board of Aldermen believe, as did President Thomas Jefferson, that "The government closest to the people serves the people best," and believes that local government is the foundation of American democracy, best positioned to be accountable, available, and answerable to the taxpayer; and

WHEREAS, the Crestwood Board of Aldermen believe that the right to vote is fundamental to the citizens of our nation, and the right to vote on purely local interests is fundamental to the citizens of those specific localities; and

WHEREAS, the Crestwood Board of Aldermen have concerns regarding the proposal to unify the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County into a new form of government, currently referred to as a "Metropolitan City," through an amendment to the Missouri Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Crestwood Board of Aldermen have concerns that the process currently proposed for such action would entail a state-wide referendum to decide matters concerning only the citizens of the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County; and

WHEREAS, the Crestwood Board of Aldermen note that a process currently exists under the Missouri Constitution which allows the voters of the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County to independently approve and effectuate a substantial portion of the changes necessary to complete the merger proposed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CRESTWOOD, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Board of Aldermen hereby oppose unification of the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County into a new form of government by means that would not allow the citizens of those political subdivisions to vote on their fate independently, as it would disenfranchise local voters by submitting a purely local

matter to a state-wide referendum, and subjugate the will of the voters in those political subdivisions to the will of the many.

Section 2. The Board of Aldermen recommend that any process to unify the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County be achieved by local petition, proposal, and popular vote through a "Board of Freeholders" process pursuant to Article VI, Sections 30(a)-30(b) of the Missouri Constitution, so that the local voters directly affected by such unification may have their say rather than being subject to the vote of the entire state.

Section 3. City of Crestwood staff shall forward a certified copy of this Resolution to Missouri state legislators and/or representatives and as many affected stakeholders as can be identified.

ADOPTED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2019.

Grant Mabie
Mayor

ATTEST:

Helen Ingold
City Clerk