

**RESOLUTION NO.3234**

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL APPROVING OF THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF OPIOID-RELATED CLAIMS AGAINST KROGER AND ITS RELATED CORPORATE ENTITIES, AND DIRECTING THE CITY ATTORNEY AND/OR THE CITY'S OUTSIDE COUNSEL TO EXECUTE THE DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE SETTLEMENTS

WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic that has cost thousands of human lives across the country also impacts Alexandria by adversely impacting the delivery of emergency medical, law enforcement, criminal justice, mental health and substance abuse services, and other services by Alexandria's various departments and agencies; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria has been required and will continue to be required to allocate substantial taxpayer dollars, resources, staff energy and time to address the damage the opioid epidemic has caused and continues to cause the citizens of Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, a settlement proposal has been negotiated that will cause Kroger to pay over a billion dollars nationwide to resolve opioid-related claims against it; and

WHEREAS, the City has approved and adopted the Virginia Opioid Abatement Fund and Settlement Allocation Memorandum of Understanding (the "Virginia MOU"), and affirms that this pending settlement with Kroger shall be considered a "Settlement" that is subject to the Virginia MOU, and shall be administered and allocated in the same manner as the opioid settlements entered into previously with the Distributors, Janssen, Teva, Allergan, Walmart, CVS, and Walgreens; and

WHEREAS, the City's outside opioid litigation counsel has recommended that the City participate in the settlement in order to recover its share of the funds that the settlement would provide; and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney has reviewed the available information about the proposed settlements and concurs with the recommendation of outside counsel;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alexandria City Council, this 25th day of June, 2024, approves of the City's participation in the proposed settlement of opioid-related claims against Kroger and its related corporate entities, and directs the City Attorney and/or the City's outside counsel to execute the documents necessary to effectuate the City's participation in the settlements, including the required release of claims against Kroger.

Adopted: June 25, 2024

  
Gloria A. Sitton, CMC, City Clerk

  
JUSTIN M. WILSON, MAYOR