

**THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS  
RESOLUTION 34-13**

**A RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE AND CONTRIBUTE GIFT CARDS IN COOPERATION WITH THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT A GUN BUY BACK PROGRAM IN OR NEAR THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS**

Introduced by: Councilmember Cynthia Mann

WHEREAS, in an effort to reduce gun violence, municipalities across the nation have implemented gun buy-back programs whereby persons are given cash payments or gift certificates as incentives for turning in guns; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that senior citizens and particularly widows are frequently left in possession of firearms bequeathed or passed from their spouses' estates and that they are often unwilling or reluctant to part with said guns for sentimental and other reasons; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council intend to cooperate with the Prince George's County Police Department and particularly with the Office of County Councilman Obie Patterson to implement a Gun Buy Back Program to help get the guns off local community streets; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to purchase gift cards in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for this project from the Public Safety – Crime Prevention line item 7078 and;

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council further intends to purchase a quantity of (20) \$50.00 gift cards for a total amount of \$1,070.00, which the total also includes the \$3.50/each service charge; a quantity of (10) \$100.00 gift cards for a total amount of \$1,035.00, which the total includes the \$3.50/each service charge; a quantity of (100) \$25.00 gift cards for a total amount of \$2,850, which the total includes the \$3.50/each service charge; and

WHEREAS, approximately 100 of the gift cards shall be purchased as a special or extra incentive for the Seniors of Forest Heights to relinquish their guns; and

WHEREAS, the total expenditure will be \$4,955.00, and shall not to exceed \$5,000; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens of the Town of Forest Heights that the Town and its police department cooperate and assist with the implementation of a gun buy-back program in the community, and that said expenditures and purposes described herein are hereby declared to be for a public purpose.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Town Council of Town of Forest Heights, Maryland hereby authorize the Mayor to purchase the above items stated in the recitals and incorporated by reference herein.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to current General Orders and the existing Memorandum of Understanding for Jurisdictional Police Services dated October 3, 2011 (the "MOU") entered into between the Town and the County, the Forest Heights Police Department (the "FHPD"), in a manner so as not to substantially interfere with routine patrol activities within the Town, shall support and cooperate with the County Police in executing the intent of this Resolution and in carrying forth a successful gun buy-out program within the community, but in no event shall the FHPD take extended custody of or otherwise safe keep any firearms obtained from said gun buy-back event.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

PASSED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2013.

APPROVED: By Resolution of the Town Council of The Town of Forest Heights, Maryland.

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE</u>	<u>YEA/NAY/ABSTAIN/ABSENT</u>
GOODALL	<u>YEA</u>
KENNEDY II	<u>YEA</u>
STONER	<u>YEA</u>
BARNES	<u>YEA</u>
MUHAMMAD	<u>YEA</u>
SMITH-BARNES	<u>YEA</u>
MANN	<u>YEA</u>

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above Resolution No. 34-13 was passed by the required yea and nay vote of the Mayor and Council of Forest Heights on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2013.

ATTEST:

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS

Bonita C. Anderson  
Bonita C. Anderson, Town Clerk

By: Jacqueline Goodall  
Jacqueline Goodall, Mayor

By: C. Lynn Smith-Barnes  
C. Lynn Smith-Barnes, Council President