



Vineland makes healthier food more accessible with new vending policy

DECEMBER 18, 2019



Members of the Vineland City Council accept a plaque from the American Heart Association for their efforts to improve healthy food accessibility in the City of Vineland. (L-R) Vineland Councilman Ronald Franceschini, Jr., Council Vice President David Acosta, Council President Paul Spinelli, American Heart Association Government Relations Director Corinne Orlando, Councilwoman Dr. Elizabeth Arthur, and Councilman Albert Vargas.

The American Heart Association recently recognized the City of Vineland for adopting a healthy vending policy. Vineland is one of the first municipalities in the state to enact a healthy vending policy.

The policy, which took effect on October 1, 2019, will bring healthier options to vending machines on city property, making healthy food consumption more readily available to municipal employees, and more than 60,000 city residents.

“We applaud the City of Vineland for taking steps to bringing healthier food options to its municipal employees and residents,” stated Corinne Orlando, Director of Government Relations for the American Heart Association New Jersey. “A healthy diet is key to helping reduce risk for chronic diseases, including heart disease and stroke.”

The policy, which was a collaborative effort between the American Heart Association, the Vineland Department of Health, Vineland City Council and Vineland Business Administrator, would impact vending machines on municipal properties including, but not limited to, City Hall, Vineland Library, Police, and Fire stations.

“We are excited to work with the American Heart Association on this effort to include healthier options throughout our municipality’s vending machines,” said Emma Lopez, Assistant Health Officer, Vineland Department of Health. “This is just one step toward making healthier foods more accessible to our residents and city employees.”

The policy meets the Association’s recommended standards for healthy food options, as noted in the [Healthy Workplace Food and Beverage Toolkit](#). The toolkit offers an action plan for updating vending machines that are compliant with nutrition standards, including serving size, calories, sodium and sugar content and amount of trans and saturated fats.