

Cornell University
University Assembly

U.A. Resolution #3

**Endorsing “The Ithaca Plan: A Public Health and Safety
Approach to Drugs and Drug Policy”**

[November 1, 2016]

1 **Sponsored by:** Linda Copman, Employee Representative; Ulysses Smith, Employee
2 **Representative; Chair:** Campus Welfare Committee

3
4 **On Behalf Of:** The University Assembly Campus Welfare Committee

5
6 **Whereas,** the University community recognizes the critical need to address issues of campus safety,
7 in the wake of separate stabbing incidents on or near campus this semester, at least one of which
8 involved the sale of drugs; and

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10 **Whereas,** the University administration has expressed support for strengthening our relationships
11 with partner law enforcement agencies in the City of Ithaca and surrounding communities, as one
12 important means to bolster campus safety; and

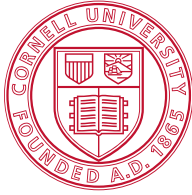
13
14 **Whereas,** in April 2014, City of Ithaca Mayor Svante Myrick convened the Municipal Drug Policy
15 Community and charged this group with recommending policies and practices we could adopt to
16 improve our local response to drug use and related policies; and

17
18 **Whereas,** in February 2016, the Municipal Drug Policy Community, comprised of experts and
19 leaders from the various sectors that respond to drug use in our community, released its report
20 outlining a coordinated drug strategy which is rooted in public health and safety; and

21
22 **Whereas,** the Campus Welfare Committee of the University Assembly formally considered the
23 findings and recommendations of the Municipal Drug Policy Community on October 25, 2016, and it
24 was the consensus of the group to endorse these finding and recommendations; therefore

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26 **Be it resolved,** that the University Assembly formally endorses the goals and recommendations
27 outlined in the Executive Summary of “The Ithaca Plan: A Public Health and Safety Approach to
28 Drugs and Drug Policy,” namely:

- 29
30
 - **Governance and Leadership**
31 *Create a mayoral-level office tasked to reduce the morbidity, mortality, cost, and inequities*
32 *associated with illicit drugs and our current responses to them.*



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- 35 • **Education**
36 *Key stakeholders and all Ithacans should have access to evidence-based practices and*
37 *education around drugs, preventing problematic use, reducing harms associated with drug*
38 *use, and helping oneself or others who have a drug use problem.*
39
- 40 • **Recovery-Oriented Treatment, Harm Reduction, and Ancillary Services**
41 *Create a recovery-oriented treatment continuum that offers access to timely, individualized,*
42 *and evidence-based, effective care, through services that are people-centered and able to*
43 *meet the needs of individuals no matter their current relationship to drug use or recovery.*
44
- 45 • **Community and Economic Development**
46 *Support and expand existing efforts to improve youth and family development, economic*
47 *opportunity, and public health of communities, targeting vulnerable communities as*
48 *immediate beneficiaries and ensuring that all Ithacans have the same access to resources*
49 *and investments.*
50
- 51 • **Public Safety**
52 *Redirect law enforcement and community resources from criminalization to increasing*
53 *access to services. Encourage a shared responsibility for community health and safety that*
54 *extends beyond the Ithaca Police Department.*
55

56 **Resolved**, that the University administration should partner with the City of Ithaca to advocate for
57 approval of The Ithaca Plan in the upcoming 2017 legislative session and to support the
58 implementation of the recommendations outlined in the Ithaca Plan; and
59

60 **Be it Finally Resolved**, that the University administration and the City of Ithaca should formally
61 present a status update on progress made toward achieving the legislation to implement the goals
62 of The Ithaca Plan to the University Assembly by October 2017, and on an annual basis every
63 October thereafter until the goals outlined above been achieved.

Adopted by a Vote of the Assembly (#Ayes – #Nays – #Abstentions), Month DD, YYYY,

Gabe Kaufman
Chair, University Assembly