



City of Palo Alto

City Council Staff Report

(ID # 11414)

Report Type: Action Items

Meeting Date: 6/8/2020

Summary Title: Resolution Supporting Black Lives Matter Movement

Title: Adoption of a Resolution of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Expressing Support of the Black Lives Matter Movement

From: City Manager

Lead Department: City Manager

Attached is a resolution for Council's consideration and adoption.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Black Lives Matter Resolution



Resolution

PROCLAIMING BLACK LIVES MATTER

WHEREAS, the inhumane murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis on May 25, 2020 by officers of that city's Police Department breaks our hearts and breaks the promise of this country, which is that all people are created equal. Our nation is understandably outraged, scared, and worried; and

WHEREAS, as your city government, we have an obligation to protect and serve everyone, no matter who they are or where they come from. At this moment of reckoning, we are called upon to listen and to speak, to kneel and to stand, to reflect and to improve; and

WHEREAS, we deeply appreciate the dedicated women and men of our police force who work, day and night, to keep our community safe. At the same time, the tremendous power of our police officers must always be balanced with the tremendous responsibility they have. We will recommit to a shared understanding of how we treat the members of our community -- who gets the benefit of the doubt and who gets pulled over, who gets let off with a warning and who is injured or killed. Our community is not immune to nor exempt from this soul-searching work; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palo Alto commits to the affirmation that Black lives matter because so many black and brown lives have for so long been discounted, undervalued, abused, and taken from us. We cannot and will not accept this here in our city, and here in our country.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City Palo Alto does hereby express its support and proclamation that Black lives matter, and commits our local government to do everything within our powers to review our police and public safety practices with the community and then implement measures that reflect no tolerance for police violence, prejudice, discrimination, and harm.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: June 8, 2020

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Clerk

Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Manager

City Attorney