CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY
RESOLUTION 20-27

A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING RACISM, SUPPORTING JUSTICE AND EQUALITY, AND AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF A DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the City of Happy Valley is becoming increasingly diverse; more than one in every four residents identifies as a race other than, or in addition to, white; and

WHEREAS, diverse and vibrant backgrounds, perspectives, and abilities contribute to the health, welfare, and economy of Happy Valley; and

WHEREAS, the City is improved when all residents have access and opportunity to equitably participate in the social, civic, and economic fabric of the City; and

WHEREAS, events throughout the Country have highlighted systemic racism and inequality exist and are harmful to the well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS, some members in the community have shared they have experienced bias and the City seeks to learn more from their experiences; and

WHEREAS, the City denounces white supremacy, racism in all its forms, and any form of discrimination based on race, color, national origin, ethnicity, heritage, culture, primary language, religion, sex, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, marital status, familial status, mental, emotional and/or physical ability, age, economic, or veteran status; and

WHEREAS, the City of Happy Valley affirms the inherent worth and dignity of all persons and believes that all should be treated fairly; and

WHEREAS, the City of Happy Valley's future relies on a system that overcomes systemic bias, confronts institutionalized racism, and supports efforts to ensure that Black, Indigenous, and People of Color thrive in our community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that no statement against hatred and bigotry is enough and that the City needs to develop strategic, consistent, and thoughtful actions; and

WHEREAS, we pledge our commitment to work with community members in developing a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Strategic Plan that aims to eliminate the systems, programs, policies, and practices that disproportionally harm those who are Black, Indigenous, People of Color, or who have been historically marginalized; and

WHEREAS, the City Council acknowledge that the work to be anti-racist takes consistent and thoughtful actions every day to foster a community that values equity and justice for all; and

WHEREAS, the City Council established a 2020 goal to support and foster a community and organizational culture that embraces diversity, equity, and inclusion.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1.   In recognition of the statements above, the City Council is authorizing the creation of a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force to develop a strategic plan to identify services, programs, events, policies, and communications offered by the City that could promote change and support inclusion in the community. It is the City's belief that this new Task Force, in conjunction with the work already begun by the United Community Alliance, will support a safe space for conversations and learning opportunities to advance justice and equality.

Section 2.   As part of the work with the DEI Task Force, the City Council commits to review its systems, programs, policies, and practices and remove barriers and ensure access to all.

Section 3.   Through the FYI 2020-21 Budget, the City Council has authorized the necessary funding to hire a consultant team with extensive experience developing DEI Strategic Plans to support these activities.

Section 4.   The City Council stands alongside of and will explore ways to partner with the North Clackamas School District Board and other local organizations in condemning racism, supporting Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, and confronting bias.

Resolution 20-27 is enacted by the City Council of the City of Happy Valley, this 15th day of September 2020.
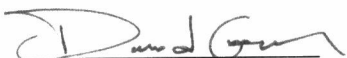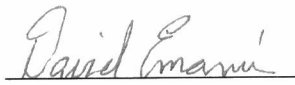
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Mayor Tom Ellis

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Council President Sherman

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Councilor Golobay

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Councilor Drake

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Councilor Emami

ATTEST: _____

Kara Kerpan
City Recorder