

RESOLUTION NUMBER 5688

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PERRIS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DECLARING RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS AND EMBRACING AND FOSTERING DIVERSITY, AND CALLING FOR GOVERNANCE PROMOTING EQUALITY AND INCLUSION AMONGST ITS RESIDENTS, VISITORS AND BUSINESSES.

WHEREAS, the City Council aims to contribute to an equitable city and region, where all residents, regardless of their race, ethnicity, neighborhood residence, zip code, or other characteristics, are fully able to participate in Perris' economic vitality, contribute to the City's readiness for the future, and benefit from the City's assets and resources; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that racism and oppression has unequally affected the populations whose ancestors experienced slavery, discrimination, forced relocation, forced labor, and deportation which has contributed to intergenerational and historical trauma and which has created dramatic physical, emotional, and mental harm amongst countless number of Californians; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further understands that racism is a social system with multiple dimensions, including individual racism, which is internalized or interpersonal, and systematic racism, which is institutional or structural, and is a system of structured opportunity, assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks; and

WHEREAS, the City Council acknowledges that systemic racism unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities, unfairly advantages other individuals and communities, and depletes the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that racism has driven health inequities among historically underserved and marginalized populations nationwide, evidenced not only in the extraordinary disparate rate at which African-Americans are killed compared to Whites, but also through inequities in factors that affect optimal health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further believes that racism causes persistent discrimination and disparate outcomes for communities of color causing an impediment in many areas of life, such as, housing, education, employment, and criminal justice; and an emerging body of research demonstrates that racism itself is a social determinant of health; and

WHEREAS, the City Council understands that communities of color are disproportionately impacted by social determinants of health, such as: disparities in accessibility to healthy food, lack of safe and health-promoting environments, under-resourced neighborhoods, inequities in education, lack of safe places to walk, bike, or run; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further believes that racism, is not just someone using a racial slur; it's also the poor schooling in predominantly black and brown neighborhoods, the racial wealth gap, housing discrimination, mass incarceration, higher infant mortality rates for people of color, and unequal access to health care; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that as a group, all human beings are equal, and we should get sick and die equally; and

WHEREAS, the City Council understands that the differential patterning of premature mortality by race is not a reflection of biological difference or some inherent predilection for ill health by one ethnic group or race, but rather it is a reflection of past and present racial patterning of disease which reflects institutionalized racism; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that all Americans deserve an end to racial inequality, by eradicating systematic racism that would strike the heart of inequalities that hold down Americans of all colors; and

WHEREAS, the City Council proclaims that the City of Perris condemns and denounces any form of discrimination, including but not limited to racism, prejudice, bigotry, hatred, bullying or violence towards any group of individuals within our community based on race, color, ancestry, national origin, immigration status, native language, along with religious beliefs, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, social economic status, disability status and genetic information; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Perris hereby declares and asserts that:

1. Racism is a public health crisis affecting our entire society; and
2. It is imperative that the Governor of State of California, State Legislature, and the California Department of Public Health recognize and declare that racism is a public health crisis affecting the entire state; and
3. The City Manager continue to promote equity through the implementation of all policies approved by the City Council and enhance educational efforts aimed at understanding, addressing and dismantling racism and how it affects the delivery of human and social services, economic development and public safety; and
4. The City Council shall make a sincere effort to advocate locally and through the California league of Cities for relevant policies that improve health in communities of color, and supports local, state, regional, and federal initiatives that advance efforts to dismantle systemic racism through the adoption and implementation of said policies; and

5. The City Council is committed to continue work to solidify alliances and partnerships with other organizations that are confronting racism and encourage other local, state, regional and national entities to recognize racism as a public health crisis; and

6. The City Council continue to support community efforts to bring awareness to issues of racism and engage actively and authentically with communities of color to bring resolution to said issues; and

7. The City Council work with the City Manager to identify specific activities to further enhance diversity and to ensure antiracism principles are recognized by all City staff and City consultants and contractors; and

8. The City Council reassures all its constituents that the City Council is committed to implementing and supporting policies and practices intended to foster diversity, tolerance, acceptance and inclusion for the purpose of making all citizens, residents, visitors and businesses feel a sense of security, safety, fairness and respect while living, working or visiting in the City of Perris, regardless of one's race, color, ancestry, national origin, immigration status, native language, or one's religious beliefs, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, social economic status, disability status and genetic information.

ADOPTED, SIGNED and APPROVED this 28th day of July, 2020.

Mayor, Michael M. Vargas

ATTEST:

City Clerk, Nancy Salazar

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE)§
CITY OF PERRIS)

I, Nancy Salazar, CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF PERRIS, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution Number 5688 was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Perris at a regular meeting of said Council on the 28th day of July, 2020, and that it was so adopted by the following vote:

AYES: CORONA, RABB, ROGERS, MAGAÑA, VARGAS

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

City Clerk, Nancy Salazar