

RESOLUTION NO. 106-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL IN RESPONSE TO THE 2016 U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR OUR SANCTUARY POLICIES; CONDEMNING VIOLENCE, HATE CRIMES AND HATE SPEECH AGAINST ALL THOSE TARGETED FOR THEIR ETHNICITY, RACE, RELIGION, DISABILITY, GENDER, SEX AND/OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION; AND REEMPHASIZING OUR COMMITMENT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

WHEREAS, The City of Richmond welcomes and values all of its residents and supports them to live and work free from discrimination, hostility, abuse, violence, exploitation and fear of local, state and federal law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, more than one third of the residents of Richmond are persons who were born in foreign countries and who have come to the U.S. in search of better lives for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, The City of Richmond currently holds dear our sanctuary policies as stated in Resolution 35-06 (April 18, 2006), Resolution 11-07 (February 6, 2007) and Ordinance 29-90 (August 20, 1990); and

WHEREAS, City positions and policies adopted in these resolutions and ordinance include: Declaring and reaffirming the City's non-cooperation policy with ICE (U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement); recognizing all immigrants for their contributions to our economic and social life; calling for a comprehensive immigration reform bill that is fair, just and humane, calling for a moratorium on ICE raids; and fostering an atmosphere of trust and cooperation between the Richmond Police Department and all our residents; and

WHEREAS, Richmond's immigrant community is made up of residents who have come from Latin America, Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and other places around the globe, who all add to the multi-culturalism and diversity that makes Richmond great; and

WHEREAS, Arab and Muslim Americans, and those perceived as Muslims, are frequently the targets of abusive and discriminatory police practices sanctioned by government bodies including surveillance in their neighborhoods and places of worship; and

WHEREAS, The City of Richmond adopted Resolution 7-16 on January 19, 2016 in opposition to Islamophobia; and

WHEREAS, The City of Richmond is a Human Rights City and condemns all hate crimes, especially relevant in light of the November 12, 2016 murder (in El Sobrante) of Richmond resident William Sims, an African-American young man, who according to police was killed by three white men because of his race; and

WHEREAS, It is the duty of the agencies of the City of Richmond to protect the inhabitants of this City and their civil rights; and

WHEREAS, President-elect Donald Trump ran a campaign on a message of hate and bigotry which has caused numerous communities to express deep concerns about their safety and the direction of our country; and

WHEREAS, If President-elect Trump enacts policies or Presidential Orders to execute any of his hateful messages, millions throughout America will face unprecedented persecution, particularly people of Arabic decent, those of Muslim faith, Latinos, African-Americans, Asian-Americans, Native Americans, women, immigrants, persons with disabilities, and the LGBTQ community; and

WHEREAS, across the U.S. we saw hundreds of demonstrations condemning the hate messages that Donald Trump expressed during his run for Presidency; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of Richmond high students walked out of their classes, in conjunction with hundreds of students from across the region, to protest against the prospects of the new Trump administration; so

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That no matter the threats made by President-elect Trump, Richmond will continue our sanctuary polices and will not turn our back on the men and women born in other countries who help make our diverse city great; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Richmond City Council strongly urges the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office to eliminate cooperation between County law enforcement and ICE; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we will never back down on women's rights, whether in healthcare, the workplace, or any other area threatened by a man who treats women as obstacles to be demeaned or objects to be assaulted. And just as important, we will ensure our young girls grow up with role models who show them they can be or do anything; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we commit to continue to promote, protect and ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That there will be no withdrawal of rights in Richmond for our LGBTQ community. And to all the LGBTQ people all over the country who feel scared, bullied, or alone: You matter. You are seen; you are loved; and Richmond will never stop fighting for you; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we still believe in this nation's founding principle of religious freedom and do not ban people for their faith; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Black Lives Matter in Richmond and we will continue using our community-involved policing model to strengthen trust between police and communities of color so all residents feel safe in their neighborhoods; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That climate change is not a hoax nor a plot by the Chinese. And we will continue our work on implementing our Climate Action Plan, our General Plan's Energy and Climate Change Element, and all our environmental health and justice policies to protect current and future generations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City of Richmond will continue to promote public transit in our multi-modal transit city working with transit agencies to provide systems we can all rely upon, whether the national administration follows through on its platform to eliminate federal transit funding or not; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City of Richmond will continue to work to assure every resident has adequate healthcare; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That California is the sixth largest economy in the world. The Bay Area is the innovation capital of the country. We will join with other Bay Area cities and make it clear that we will not be bullied by threats to revoke our federal funding, nor will we sacrifice our values or members of our community for the almighty dollar; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we condemn all hate crimes and hate speech perpetrated in this election's wake. That although the United States will soon have a President who has demonstrated a lack of respect for the values we hold in the highest regard in Richmond, it cannot change who we are, and it will never change our values. We argue, we campaign, we debate vigorously within Richmond, but on these points we are 100 percent united. We will fight discrimination and recklessness in all its forms. We are ONE Richmond. And we will move forward together.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That the Richmond City Council directs the Clerk of the Richmond City Council to send copies of this resolution to our Federal representatives including Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Barbara Boxer, Senator-elect Kamala Harris and Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, as well as to Contra Costa County Sheriff David Livingston and Supervisor John Gioia.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on December 6, 2016 by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Beckles, McLaughlin, Myrick, Pimplé, Vice Mayor Martinez, and Mayor Butt.

NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Bates.

PAMELA CHRISTIAN


CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:
TOM BUTT
Mayor

Approved as to form:
BRUCE GOODMILLER
City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 106-16**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on December 6, 2016.



Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of Richmond