



NEWS RELEASE

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City Council Renews Commitment to Safe, Inclusive Community Council Resolution Opposes Acts of Hate, Intolerance and Encourages Reporting

Council Resolution

Following one of the most divisive general elections in our country's recent history, with news reports of incidents of hate and bias occurring in other cities, Eugene officials have heard from members of vulnerable communities who are frightened and concerned for their safety.

To make clear its continuing commitment to a safe, welcoming community, at its meeting tonight the Eugene City Council unanimously approved a resolution stating, in part:

- The City Council is committed to making Eugene a welcoming, inclusive, and safe community for everyone.
- The City Council is committed to standing together with the people of Eugene in opposing hate and bias activities and acts of intolerance committed against our neighbors.
- The City Council is committed to report incidents of hate and bias and will build upon partnerships with community organizations to track and respond to these incidents.

The full resolution is attached and also copied below:



Res No 5174.doc

Hate and Bias Incident Reporting and Response

The City of Eugene actively implements its Hate and Bias Response Plan, including responding to and tracking incidents, providing support to victims of incidents and producing an annual Hate and Bias report.

Although staff have seen no noticeable increase in recent days in reports directly to the City's Human Rights and Neighborhood Involvement office or the Eugene Police Department, they have heard of local incidents from partner agencies.

The City of Eugene's Office of Human Rights and Neighborhood Involvement (HRNI) encourages community members experiencing discrimination, hate or bias to report these incidents. According to the Department of Justice only 25-42% of all hate and bias crimes are reported.

To report such crimes or incidents, people may call either the Office of Human Rights and Neighborhood Involvement or the Eugene Police Department. HRNI provides community members an opportunity to report incidents and offers opportunities for support.

To file a report, community members may:

- Stop by the HRNI office at 99 W. 10th Ave., Suite 116,
- Call 541-682-5177, or
- Online at <http://www.eugene-or.gov/2476/Equity-and-Human-Rights-Contact-Form>

If a person is experiencing immediate danger, they should call 911. People may also report incidents or crimes to the Police non-emergency line: 541-682-5111.

RESOLUTION NO. 5174

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE CITY OF EUGENE'S COMMITMENT TO BEING A WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE, AND SAFE COMMUNITY FOR EVERYONE

The City Council of the City of Eugene finds that:

A. As the Mayor and City Council of the City of Eugene, we are united in our commitment to serve the people that we represent after the culmination of one of the most divisive general elections in our Country's history.

B. In alignment with City Council's goal of creating a safe and welcoming community, we are firm in our resolve to ensure that all people residing in, visiting and passing through the City of Eugene are safe. We choose to be a leader in promoting human rights and social justice and equity, public safety and social well-being.

C. The City of Eugene has a long standing history and commitment of supporting many communities who are experiencing hate, bias and discrimination and the City Council has adopted Ordinances and Resolutions that demonstrate this commitment, including:

1. Human Rights Municipal Code provisions, EC 4.613 - 4.655 (adopted in 1971, with the most recent amendment adopted in 2014 which made it unlawful to discriminate based on gender (Ord. 20523))
2. Resolution 5073 (adopted 2012) Support of a Statement of Principles for Immigrant Integration
3. Resolution 5142 (adopted in 2015) A Resolution Declaring the Urgency of the Housing and Homelessness Crisis
4. Resolution 5148 (adopted in 2016) A Resolution Declaring the Second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples' Day
5. Resolution 5150 (adopted in 2016) A Resolution Supporting the Oregon Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
6. Resolution 5154 (adopted in 2016) A Resolution Declaring the City of Eugene's Commitment in Protecting Refugees

D. We believe in and are committed to continue our work to build a community that is welcoming, inclusive, just and safe for everyone.

E. We welcome all people and recognize the rights of individuals to live their lives with dignity, free of discrimination and targeting because of their age, faith, race, national origin, immigration status, gender identity, ability, ethnicity, housing status, sexual orientation, economic status or other social status.

F. We are committed to treating all people fairly, and to fully embracing the unique contributions of all Eugene residents regardless of age, faith, race, national origin, immigration status, gender identity, ability, ethnicity, housing status, sexual orientation, economic status or other social status.

G. We strongly condemn bias, intimidation, harassment and other acts that are based on age, faith, race, national origin, immigration status, gender identity, ability, ethnicity, housing status, sexual orientation, economic status or other social status.

H. We are committed to ensuring that all members of our community are free from acts that are rooted in fear, ignorance, prejudice, and hate.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EUGENE, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Oregon, as follows:

Section 1. The City Council is committed to making Eugene a welcoming, inclusive, and safe community for everyone.

Section 2. The City Council is committed to standing together with the people of Eugene in opposing hate and bias activities and acts of intolerance committed against our neighbors.

Section 3. The City Council is committed to its mechanisms the community can use to report incidents of hate and bias and will build upon partnerships with community organizations and local agencies to track and respond to these incidents in the City of Eugene's annual Hate and Bias report and at the direction of the City of Eugene's Hate and Bias Response Plan.

Section 4. This Resolution is effective immediately upon its passage by the City Council.

The foregoing Resolution adopted the 14th day of November, 2016.

City Recorder

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