

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-008

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARLINGTON IN RESPONSE TO THE DEATH OF GEORGE FLOYD, CONDEMNING RACISM, AND SUPPORTING PEACEFUL PROTESTS IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

WHEREAS, on May 25, 2020 in Minneapolis, Minnesota the life of George Floyd was tragically taken by a Minneapolis police officer; and

WHEREAS, the unjust death of George Floyd and many others have sparked demonstrations and protests nationwide in response to continued racism and unequal justice that still exists in our nation; and

WHEREAS, it is every American's constitutional right to peacefully assemble and protest, and the overwhelming majority of those protesting are doing so peacefully to fight for justice for George Floyd and social justice in our nation; and

WHEREAS, there are groups of individuals resorting to violence, whether out of genuine anger or opportunism, causing further destruction and hurt in our communities, and further dividing us; and

WHEREAS, due to claims on social media about non-peaceful protests coming to the City of Snohomish, bringing fear of potential destruction to local businesses, many citizens congregated in downtown Snohomish on Sunday, May 31st, 2020; and

WHEREAS, as while the majority of these citizens were peacefully gathered to protect their city from harm, there were instances of individuals advertising hate symbols; and

WHEREAS, as we move forward and continue striving for social justice and racial equity, let these words by Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. be on the forefront of our minds: "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arlington invites all other cities in Snohomish County to adopt a similar Resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Arlington:

1. Mourn the death of George Floyd and joins the call for justice;
2. Support those who wish to protest peacefully without fear of intimidation;
3. Do not support returning hate with hate or violence with violence;
4. Condemn acts of violence and damage to public and private property;

5. Commit to ongoing efforts to listen to our historically marginalized communities of color and finding actionable ways to make our system more just for everyone;
6. Stand proudly for racial equality and condemn any and all hate-based organizations that are counter to this mission.

PASSED BY the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor this 15th day of June, 2020.

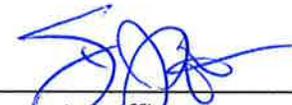
CITY OF ARLINGTON


Barbara Tolbert, Mayor

Attest:


Wendy Van Der Meersche, City Clerk

Approved as to form:


Steven J. Peiffle
City Attorney