



City of Palo Alto

COLLEAGUES MEMO

23

DATE: December 12, 2016

TO: City Council Members

FROM: Council Member Holman, Council Member Kniss, Council Member Wolbach, Council Member Burt

SUBJECT: COLLEAGUES MEMO REAFFIRMING PALO ALTO'S COMMITMENT TO A DIVERSE, SUPPORTIVE, INCLUSIVE AND PROTECTIVE COMMUNITY

We recommend Council adopt the attached Resolution affirming Palo Alto's commitment to a diverse, supportive, inclusive and protective community.

NOT YET APPROVED

Resolution No. _____
Resolution of the Council of the City of Palo Alto to
Reaffirm Palo Alto's Commitment to a Diverse, Supportive,
Inclusive, and Protective Community

RECITALS

A. Palo Altans value a community characterized by diversity, multiculturalism, and unity, embodied in our national motto, *E Pluribus Unum* (from many, one); and

B. Palo Alto's community spirit is one of protection and support, with many Palo Altans active as volunteers in preparing for and responding to emergencies both natural and man-made, and ensuring the physical and emotional needs of all are considered and met wherever possible; and

C. Each person is naturally and legally entitled to live a life unmolested by harassment, discrimination, persecution, or assault, whether perpetrated by individuals, groups, businesses, or government; and

D. There exists significant and growing concern in our community based upon recent national and regional incidents of hate crimes, discrimination, sexual harassment, and assault, and fear of a trend toward more of these crimes in the future; and

E. There also exists considerable concern in our community of risks to marginalized communities of persecution, deportation, denial of constitutional and human rights, and relaxation of national laws protecting people from discrimination, harassment, and assault; and

F. Many Palo Altans, including a large number of students, have recently marched peacefully, rallied, and otherwise communicated their rejection of bigotry and affirmed their commitment to a diverse, supportive, inclusive, and protective community; and

G. Palo Altans value all members of our community of all religions, ancestries, and ethnicities as well as people of any disability, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Palo Alto takes this opportunity to reinforce our commitment to a diverse, supportive, inclusive, and protective community and RESOLVES as follows:

SECTION 1. Resolution.

NOT YET APPROVED

The City of Palo Alto rejects bigotry in all its forms, including but not limited to Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, racism, nativism, misogyny, and homophobia; and

The City of Palo Alto does not tolerate discrimination, hate crimes, harassment, or assault; and

The City of Palo Alto will oppose any attempts to undermine the safety, security, and rights of members of our community; and

The City of Palo Alto recognizes, values, and will proactively work to ensure the rights and privileges of everyone in Palo Alto, regardless of religion, ancestry, country of birth, immigration status, disability, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity; and

The City of Palo Alto will promote actual safety, a sense of security, and equal protection of constitutional and human rights, leading by example through equitable treatment of all by City officials and departments.

SECTION 2. CEQA. The Council finds that the adoption of this resolution does not meet the definition of a project under Public Resources Code Section 21065, thus, no environmental assessment under the California Environmental Quality Act is required.

SECTION 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately on its passage.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED:

City Attorney

City Manager

Director of Administrative Services