TO:            HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL
FROM:          CITY MANAGER        DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY SERVICES
DATE:         SEPTEMBER 18, 2006     CMR: 369:06
SUBJECT:      HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF IMMIGRATION REFORM WHICH UPHOLDS THE PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE, FAIRNESS AND HUMANITY

RECOMMENDATION
The City of Palo Alto’s Human Relations Commission (HRC) requests that the City Council adopt an Immigration Reform Resolution and direct the City Attorney to draft the final version of the resolution.

BOARD/COMMISSION REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION
At its May 11, 2006 HRC meeting, Commissioners discussed the HRC’s role in preparing a resolution in opposition to the Immigration Bill HR 4437. Commissioners reviewed resolutions adopted by other cities and drafted an Immigration Reform Resolution that was reviewed at the June 8, 2006 HRC meeting. Commissioners stated that the intent for drafting this particular resolution was to address the concerns regarding protecting due process, providing a just and fair immigration law and oppose the proposed immigration reforms contained in HR 4437. The HRC’s resolution also identifies the contributions that immigrants have made to America’s economy, cultural, spiritual and political prosperity. The HRC desires, with the adoption of this resolution by the City Council, that the City of Palo Alto will be on record in support of immigration reform that is comprehensive, provides a path to citizenship for immigrants and that is just, fair and humane.

At its June 8th, 2006 HRC meeting, Commissioners discussed, amended and approved a Resolution in Support of Immigration Reform. The HRC is forwarding the resolution to the City Council for adoption and to direct the City Attorney to draft the final version of the resolution.

RESOURCE IMPACT
There should not be a significant impact on staff time.

ATTACHMENTS
Attachment A:     Cover Letter from the Chair of the Human Relations Commission
Attachment B:     Draft Immigration Reform Resolution