



Office of the Mayor

CONSENT CALENDAR  
July 10, 2018

To: Honorable Members of the City Council  
From: Mayor Jesse Arreguín  
Subject: Declaring a “No Hate Week” in Berkeley

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution declaring the week of November 11-17, 2018 as a “No Hate Week” in the City of Berkeley, in conjunction with other Bay Area cities.

BACKGROUND

Since the Trump Administration has taken office, there has been an alarming increase in fringe ideologies using hatred as a means of intimidation. Numerous policy positions, from wanting to build a wall to most recently separating families at the border, combined with the actions and rhetoric of Donald Trump, have fueled the normalization of hateful and racist discourse. Attacks on immigrants, Muslims, people of color, women, the LGBTQI community, and our most vulnerable are now commonplace. As a result, we are seeing an uptick in hate crimes and the open promotion of xenophobic ideas.

Throughout 2017, multiple rallies and protests took place in Berkeley, as well as in other cities across the country, demonstrating the deep divide present in our current political climate. And similar to what happened in our city, many of these events resulted in violence, massive disruptions, and damage, leaving communities wondering what they could do. In response to the numerous events and to clearly state our shared values, our community developed the Berkeley Stands United Against Hate campaign, which was adopted by several other cities in the Bay Area, and served as a uniting and hopeful beacon amidst a challenging time, declaring our commitment to inclusivity.

To further respond to the divide currently facing our nation, cities across the Bay Area are organizing a “No Hate Week” that will take place November 11-17, 2018. Events will focus on breaking through positionality, communicating in conflict, and working together to achieve common goals. The hope is to promote education, compassion, and cooperation, which are key to embracing differences between people.

This week was chosen to align with National Gratitude Month, which encourages people to take a positive, more appreciative outlook on life. November 11, 2018 is also Veterans Day, marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice of World War I.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

[Title of Report]

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ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

No environmental impacts.

CONTACT PERSON

Mayor Jesse Arreguín      510-981-7100

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

IN SUPPORT OF DELCARING A NO HATE WEEK

WHEREAS, the United States is a nation of immigrants, whose strength comes from its diversity; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution enshrines equality on all individuals, regardless of race, gender, orientation, religion, or political views; and

WHEREAS, recent federal policies and rhetoric have generated a toxic environment that encourages the propagation of racist, xenophobic, sexist, homophobic, Islamophobic, and other bigoted views by emboldened hate groups and individuals; and

WHEREAS, deep divisions within our country allow for the festering of extreme ideology, further strengthening a cycle of mistrust and suspicion fueled by fear, anxiety, and insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the number of hate crimes across the United States has increased dramatically over the past couple of years; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, white nationalist groups held violent rallies in cities across the country, instilling fear across many diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley is deeply committed to inclusivity; and

WHEREAS, Our City of Refuge declaration and the Sanctuary City designation many cities have adopted play an important role in promoting a hate-free environment, and creating safer and more flourishing communities; and

WHEREAS, the community launched a Berkeley Stands Untied Against Hate campaign to further state our shared values and reiterate our commitment to inclusivity; and

WHEREAS, education, compassion, and cooperation are key to understanding and embracing differences between people; and

WHEREAS, sponsoring a No Hate Week is an important step in bridging divisions and healing communities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that it hereby declares the week of November 11, 2018 through November 17, 2018 as No Hate Week in the City of Berkeley.

