Resolution No: 12-21

Resolution: Hate Has No Place Here: Condemning and Denouncing All Hate, and Hate-Motivated Violent Actions in the City of Rockville.

WHEREAS, our American dream can be realized only with equality and acceptance of all who seek peace and liberty in our country and our City; and

WHEREAS, the Rockville Mayor and Council is committed to inclusion and advancing equity and justice for people of all races, color, religion, ancestry or national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, economics and perceived economic status, or genetic information; and

WHEREAS, the Rockville Mayor and Council affirms its ongoing commitment to cultivating an inclusive, safe, and just society and culture – including within City government operations and institutions – that values the diversity of our community, works to ensure equitable opportunities in all major facets of society, and celebrates both our individuality and commonality; and

WHEREAS, since the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic, harmful and xenophobic rhetoric, related to the geographic origins of this disease resulted in a rise in reported hate incidents and crimes against Asian American and Pacific Islander individuals, communities and businesses throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, there has been an increase in misogynistic, anti-Semitic, especially those belonging to the Jewish faith, Islamophobic, anti-Sikh, anti-Asian and Pacific Islander, anti-Black and Brown rhetoric, harassment, and violence in various parts of the country; and

WHEREAS, the Rockville Mayor and Council commit to countering hate and extremism through engagement with community leaders, governmental transparency, and public information-sharing regarding efforts to fight extremism, and the investigation and prosecution of those who commit criminal acts, consistent with civil liberties protections.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that ideologies based on hate, violence, discord and intolerance are rejected and condemned, and we urge residents to join us in adopting these values in their own lives, calling attention to these harms, and denouncing hate and extremism to help keep us all safe.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Rockville Mayor and Council hereby reject prejudice and bigotry based on race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, economics and perceived economic status, or genetic information.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council at its meeting of September 13, 2021.

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Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director

Of Council Operations