

**The City Council of
City of Hood River, Oregon
Resolution 2020-13**

Resolution for Racial and Social Equity within the City of Hood River

WHEREAS, the Hood River City Council adopted Resolution 2017-02, that declared that “the values that we hold in our city are inclusive of all people. We will fight discrimination and recklessness in all its forms” and described the City as “a place of sanctuary and safety” that nurtures “a culture of trust between police, immigrants and communities of color so all residents feel safe in their neighborhoods”;

WHEREAS, the 2019 Columbia Gorge Regional Community Health Assessment identified a sense of security and belonging as an important factor for individual physical and mental health, and the Hood River City Council adopted Resolution 2019-11 to increase a feeling of belonging through recognition of the Hood River County Community Identification Card as a valid form of identification;

WHEREAS, the Hood River City Council prioritized action in our 2020 Work Plan to create opportunities for an inclusive, equitable and diverse housing inventory, and to focus our communications on the principles of diversity, equity and inclusion to effectively engage the entire community;

WHEREAS, the City of Hood River signed the national “Mayor’s Pledge” that initiated a review of our “use of force” policies with both external entities and community input and committed to addressing identified issues;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent economic crisis have disproportionately affected black, indigenous, and other people of color, highlighting systemic racism within our political and social structures;

WHEREAS, climate change will disproportionately affect communities of color, low-income communities, and other vulnerable populations;

WHEREAS, recent killings of black individuals have highlighted systemic racism in political and social structures and within institutions of public safety to which the City of Hood River is not immune;

WHEREAS, segments of our community feel distrust towards our local government/police;

WHEREAS, the Hood River City Council values peaceful demonstrations where all people feel safe to express their opinions, and recognizes that the use of social media, or other media, to encourage non-peaceful activities and the open display of firearms can be perceived as threatening and cause fear;

WHEREAS, the Hood River City Council envisions a community where every person feels safe, where trust is maintained, where all people are equitably cared for; and recognizes that local governments must be an essential participant in the movement for racial and social equity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Hood River City Council acknowledges that systemic racism and institutional inequities harm black, indigenous, and other people of color in our community, and the City supports the goal of systematic change to achieve racial and social equity in our community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Hood River commits to eliminating racial and social inequities within our staff, volunteers, and elected officials. The City will continue to listen, grow, and work towards justice and equity. The Hood River City Council acknowledges that this is a goal without an endpoint that will require our sustained effort to ensure all people in our community feel that they belong and are treated fairly;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Hood River will identify and eliminate instances of bias and racial/social equity barriers in City programs and services, and will continue making changes to city policies, including land use, housing policy, and zoning, that are barriers of exclusion and segregation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Hood River will educate and train all staff, volunteers, and elected officials about the history of racism in the United States, Oregon, and in our community and the principles of equity and inclusion;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Hood River will explore community-based models of safety, support, and prevention that could modify, supplement, and/or support existing public safety practices;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Hood River City Council is committed to reducing our contributions to climate change per Resolution 2019-16 and will work towards a community-centered planning process that promotes resilience to climate effects among low-income populations and communities of color;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Hood River will actively seek input from all community members, especially individuals from communities disproportionately affected by racism and other economic and social disparities;

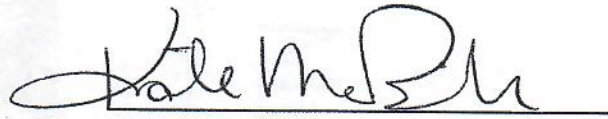
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Hood River City Council continues to welcome community input, peaceful demonstrations, and other methods of peaceful community debate;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Hood River City Council explicitly denounces actions that detract from a sense of community safety, including any forms of intimidation or harassment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Hood River City Council will coordinate our actions with community partners in recognition that it will take the work of all of us pulling together to enact real, lasting change;

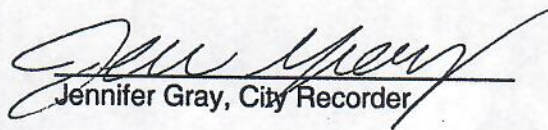
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Hood River commits to reviewing progress and updating strategies to address the issues identified in this resolution annually.

Approved and Effective this 27th day of July 2020 by the Hood River City Council.



Kate McBride, Mayor

Attest:



Jennifer Gray, City Recorder

Approved as to form:



Daniel Kearns, City Attorney