



Memorandum

TO: RULES AND OPEN GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

FROM: Vice Mayor Chappie Jones

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING BLACK LIVES MATTER

DATE: June 12, 2020

APPROVED:

DATE: June 12, 2020

RECOMMENDATION

City Council adopt resolution proclaiming black lives matter in alignment with Council Policy 0-11, Council Resolution Policy. Place attached resolution on the June 30, 2020 Council Agenda for action.

BACKGROUND

In the face of recent national events involving the death of George Floyd and protests across the country, a light has been shed on a deeper issue in America: systemic racism. It is real and it is built into every level of our society in ways that might surprise us all. I call on our City to take the lead in structural reform to ensure that black, brown, indigenous, and other communities of color are safe and equal members of society. More importantly, we must take the lead in reaffirming public trust in law enforcement. I urge the Mayor and Council to join me in proclaiming black lives matter and to take action as outlined in the attached Resolution.

Statements are important, but actions are critical. How we move forward will indicate our true intent and the sincerity of our respect and love for others. We have an opportunity for growth, and for appreciating and embracing those in the Black community and other people of color. I look forward to working with the Mayor and Council to further confirm and exemplify our commitment to action and create real change that will lead to the eradication of systemic racism that plagues our country and society.