RESOLUTION NO. 2020-56

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEMECULA SUPPORTING THE FAIR AND EQUAL TREATMENT OF ALL HUMAN BEINGS, DENOUNCING RACISM IN ALL ITS FORMS, AND DECLARING ITS COMMITMENT TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

WHEREAS, on May 25, 2020, George Floyd, a 46-year old unarmed black man, was killed after being arrested by police in Minneapolis, Minnesota for possessing a counterfeit \$20 bill; and

WHEREAS, the unarmed deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Stephon Clark, Philando Castile, Tamir Rice, Michael Brown, Eric Garner, Trayvon Martin and many more, have led to nationwide protests; and

WHEREAS, these protests and related community dialogues have led to a renewed commitment by many in the public and private sectors to actively acknowledge and work towards a more equitable and just society; and

WHEREAS, in local government specifically, the Southern California Association of Governments, League of California Cities, County of Riverside, and many other county and city elected officials, have publicly denounced racism while committing to address its related challenges; and

WHEREAS, Temecula is not immune from the impacts of racism and members of the community have shared their personal stories, their discriminatory experiences, and their powerful voices, in an effort to be heard and seen; and

WHEREAS, members of the Temecula City Council have also expressed a strong desire to address the needs of the community and effectuate change; and

WHEREAS, on July 14, 2020, the Temecula City Council approved an initiative based broadly on the Race, Equity and Leadership (REAL) program offered through the National League of Cities; and

WHEREAS, as a part of the race and equity workplan, the Temecula City Council conceptually approved items in three phases, related to ongoing education, communication, policy review, resolution adoption and the creation of a commission, ensuring the important conversations and hard work around race, equity, diversity, and inclusion will continue well into the future in a sustainable and meaningful manner; and

WHEREAS, for purposes of common understanding, diversity means the commitment to the presence of variety, which is expressed in a myriad of forms (race, ethnicity, gender, culture, age, disability, religion, perspective, etc.), inclusion means the commitment to create an environment and a condition where those differences are welcome, different perspectives are heard, and everyone has a sense of belonging, and equity means the commitment to work on policies that may directly or indirectly discriminate on a variety of factors (race, age, socioeconomics, religion, etc.) and provide an opportunity for all persons to succeed based on what their needs are to achieve that success.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEMECULA DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council supports the fair and equitable treatment of all human beings in a just society, irrespective of race, ethnicity, gender, disability, religion, or cultural background, and strongly denounces racism in all its forms, systemic or otherwise.

SECTION 2. The City Council stands in solidarity with the Temecula community, communities of color and those negatively impacted physically, emotionally, mentally, and/or economically by racism resulting from inherent biases and prejudice.

SECTION 3. The City Council recognizes the role it plays in fostering a healthy and prosperous environment for all residents of Temecula and commits to the meaningful advancement of equity, diversity and inclusion in its community dialogue, services, programs and policies.

SECTION 4. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Temecula this 11th day of August, 2020.

Maryann Edwards, Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

Randi Johl, City Clerk

[SEAL]

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE) ss
)

I, Randi Johl, City Clerk of the City of Temecula, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 2020-56 was duly and regularly adopted by the City Council of the City of Temecula at a meeting thereof held on the 11th day of August, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: 4 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Edwards, Naggar, Rahn, Schwank

NOES: 0 COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSTAIN: 0 COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: 0 COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

Randi Johl, City Clerk