

Resolve 1-17/18

Passage: 8-0 (Ray absent) on 8/21/2017

Effective 8/31/2017

ETHAN K. STRIMLING (MAYOR)
BELINDA S. RAY (1)
SPENCER R. THIBODEAU (2)
BRIAN E. BATSON (3)
JUSTIN COSTA (4)

CITY OF PORTLAND
IN THE CITY COUNCIL

DAVID H. BRENERMAN (5)
JILL C. DUSON (A/L)
PIOUS ALI (A/L)
NICHOLAS M. MAVODONES, JR (A/L)

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING RACIAL BIGOTRY AND PUBLIC HATE SPEECH

WHEREAS, the City Council of Portland, Maine, believes the public sector works for the public good and that advancing equity and inclusion is critical to the success of our community and our nation; and

WHEREAS, we, the members of this Council, believe in and stand for values of inclusion, equity and justice and condemn racism, antisemitism, white supremacy, sexism, Islamophobia, and xenophobia in action and rhetoric; and

WHEREAS, we affirm that the City of Portland will continue as a beacon of welcome to all persons, continuing to provide city services and programs to all individuals, recognizing that everyone has the right to live their lives with dignity, free of discrimination based on their race, faith, national origin or immigration status; and

WHEREAS, we the elected members of the Portland City Council hereby assert and ally ourselves in standing against public demonstrations of hateful and racially threatening behavior and against those who preach hate and incite violence in our beloved city; and

WHEREAS, we understand that remaining silent and standing on the side lines while neighbors are attacked and vilified is wrong and goes against everything our community values;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Portland, Maine's largest city, unequivocally condemns individuals and organizations who promote racism and hate speech and stands against those who incite violence and threaten the safety and dignity of our residents; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we reject the display of racist propaganda and symbols of hatred and victimization based on race, faith, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin or immigration status; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND REAFFIRMED that City Council of the City of Portland, Maine will do everything in its power to make certain the City of Portland is and will remain a welcoming city and a city opposed to acts of racism and bigotry.