

CITY OF SAN MATEO
RESOLUTION NO. ____ (2020)

**RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT BLACK LIVES MATTER, AND REAFFIRMING THE CITY OF SAN MATEO'S
COMMITMENT TO RACIAL EQUITY**

WHEREAS, as our Country contends with the consequences of 400 years of systemic violence and abuse towards Black people and Black communities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council acknowledges that police brutality and racial violence against Black people tragically continues within the United States as evidenced by the murders of George Floyd, Atatiana Jefferson, Jordan Edwards, Tamir Rice, Jean Pedro Pierre, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Botham Jean, Walter Scott, Akai Gurley and many more; and

WHEREAS, people of color have been historically disadvantaged by structural racism and racial inequity continues to exist in the City of San Mateo; and

WHEREAS, the City Council acknowledges that Black lives matter and we stand in solidarity with communities of color, and the hundreds of city residents who exercised their right to peacefully protest against racism and police brutality in the last few weeks; and

WHEREAS, the City Council affirms the inherent dignity of all of our community members and we hold ourselves, our institutions and our government to the highest possible standards of equity and justice; and

WHEREAS, City Hall should be a place that builds understanding and actively engages our diverse community in creating pathways to freedom and justice for all people; and

WHEREAS, the City Council co-authored this resolution in partnership with our Black leaders because allyship starts with listening to affected community members and uplifting underrepresented voices; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is committed to working in coalition with our local Black institutions including St. James A.M.E. Zion Church, Trinity Baptist Church, Macedonia Church of God and Christ, Second Baptist Church, Bay Area Community Health Advisory Council, North Central Neighborhood Association, and the NAACP San Mateo Chapter, and community stakeholders to support reflection, dialogue, learning, and action to eradicate institutionalized racism and inequity; and

WHEREAS, the foundation for community-led change starts with our own openness to transformation, and a commitment to an inclusive and methodical process of learning and analysis; and

WHEREAS, this resolution reflects the efforts of the following co-authors:

Claire Mack, Former Mayor City of San Mateo

Amourence Lee, San Mateo City Council Member

Lisa Tealer, Executive Director of Bay Area Community Health Advisory Council

Reverend Dr. Marlyn Bussey, Pastor, St. James AME Zion Church, San Mateo

Reverend Lorrie Owens, President of NAACP San Mateo Chapter

Rory McMilton, President of City of San Mateo Police Officers' Association and Police Chief Ed Barberini

and supporters:

Darren Kelley, Board Chair of San Mateo Police Activities League

Ethel Batiste, President North Central Neighborhood Association

Reverend Sydney Webster, Senior Pastor of Trinity Baptist Church

Leon Swindell, Pastor of Macedonia Church of God in Christ

Rosa L. Simpson, Pastor of Second Baptist Church of San Mateo

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA, HEREBY DECLARES that Black lives matter and will work to continue to address the root causes of racial inequity in our community by using an anti-racist, racial equity focused lens to assess current and future policies, processes, practices and programs.*

*This resolution is not an endorsement of the political organization "Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation".