

**CITY OF OJAI
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 20-46**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
OJAI, CALIFORNIA STANDING AGAINST RACIAL INJUSTICE**

WHEREAS, the United States and California Constitutions provide that a person may not be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law, or denied equal protection under the law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Ojai holds the humanity and precious lives of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and George Floyd, and all victims of racism in our hearts;

WHEREAS, racism has been a historically negative part of American history, and communities of color, including Black people, have suffered because of it for generations;

WHEREAS, the negative repercussions of historical racism – including but not limited to slavery, Jim Crow laws, discriminatory lending practices of the 20th century known as “redlining,” and the current limitations and access to healthy, nutritious food – have lowered educational, employment and housing opportunities, increased rates of lead poisoning, limited access to clean water, and created other negative environmental impacts; increased rates of infant mortality; and reduced the life expectancy of people of color;

WHEREAS, our City stands together, as one, with those who have been victimized in our country by racial injustice, inequality, discrimination, prejudice or otherwise marginalized, disenfranchised, or subject to unequal protection of law or disparate treatment because of their race, color, ancestry, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sex, disability or sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, we reject and condemn racism, prejudice and discrimination and those abuses described in the preceding paragraph, and we recognize and affirm that as Americans and in our local community, together, we must all listen to and learn from one another and work together, in a spirit of reconciliation, toward the elimination of racism, prejudice and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, we fully support and respect the exercise of First Amendment rights and peaceful protest as an essential method of raising awareness and effectuating societal change; and

WHEREAS, we are committed to engagement and open dialogue with community members concerning the elimination of racism, prejudice and discrimination, and a review and understanding of policing policies and procedures to further such purposes as set forth herein, all in the interests of promoting the safety and well-being of all people within the City of Ojai;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: The City Council of the City of Ojai finds and declares as follows:

1. Declares that the City stands against racial injustice;
2. Declares that the City of Ojai is dedicated to serving all people with fairness, dignity and respect;
3. Declares that the City of Ojai is committed to continually improving all of its policies and practices.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Ojai at the regular meeting of said Council held on this 25th day of August, 2020 by the following vote:

AYES: Blatz, Francina, Haney, Johnston, Weirick

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None




John F. Johnston, Mayor

9-12-2020


Date Signed

ATTEST:



Gail Davis
Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Matthew T. Summers
City Attorney