

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-05

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, adopting a statement on Equity.

WHEREAS, the Lakewood City Council acknowledges that equity is essential to a healthy community; and

WHEREAS, the Lakewood City Council is committed to identifying and eliminating systemic racism; and

WHEREAS, the Lakewood City Council intends to lead by example in the advancement of equity and the deliberate practice of inclusion.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES, as follows:

Section 1. A Statement on Equity by the Lakewood City Council, is hereby adopted as set forth in Exhibit A, which is attached.

Section 2. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon passage and signatures hereon.

PASSED by the City Council this 19th day of April, 2021.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD



Don Anderson, Mayor

Attest:



Briana Schumacher, City Clerk

Approved as to form:



Heidi Ann Wachter, City Attorney



A Statement on Equity by the Lakewood City Council

The Lakewood City Council acknowledges that equity is essential to a healthy community.

We are committed to identifying and eliminating systemic racism. We intend to lead by example in the advancement of equity and the deliberate practice of inclusion.

The City Council commits to the following practices:

- Instilling equity as a priority of policy and the delivery of services.
- Enacting initiatives that support and celebrate the diversity of the community.
- Ensuring equity in municipal planning.
- Identifying and dismantling preconceived prejudices.
- Increasing sensitivity to social norms and cultural expectations.
- Pursuing justice and equity for all residents.

We recognize the critical role that city leaders have in removing barriers to opportunity. We recognize that systemic inequality has endured, but commit that it shall not persist.

The City Council will not tolerate *intolerance*.

It is unconscionable that some members of our community fall victim to acts of hate. Acts of hate based upon race, creed, ancestry, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or socioeconomic status are unwelcome in Lakewood, Washington.

The Lakewood Police Department shall be vigilant in its investigation and prosecution of crimes of hate.

These intentional practices will inform our decision-making on policing, zoning, capital investment and all other matters of the City Council. Our objective is to create a more diverse, equitable and inclusive Lakewood community for all residents and we invite all Lakewood organizations and residents to join us in this effort.

SIGNED BY:

Mayor Don Anderson

Councilmember Mike Brandstetter

Councilmember Linda Farmer

Deputy Mayor Jason Whalen

Councilmember Paul Bocchi

Councilmember Mary Moss

Councilmember Patti Belle