



CITY OF DALY CITY

News Release

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City Council Approves Resolution Expressing Strong Commitment and Support for All Community Members Irrespective of Immigration Status

Daly City- On Monday evening, February 27, 2017, the City Council of Daly City unanimously approved a Resolution Affirming Commitment to Support and Respect All Community Members Irrespective of Immigration Status. The measure, initially introduced in concept by Vice Mayor Juslyn Manalo, is intended to express a strong policy statement in support of the rights of every resident in Daly City, regardless of ethnic or national origin, race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, economic or immigration status.

Over 52% of Daly City's 112,000 residents are foreign born, according to the Bay Area Census and the American Community Survey. Of this number it is estimated that about 21% or 12,000 residents who call Daly City home are undocumented immigrants. Daly City is a community proud of its history and heritage of immigration which has led to it being one of the most culturally and racially diverse cities in the nation. Residents and local officials take great pride in the rich diversity and community accord reflected among those with different backgrounds.

"Daly City is a culmination of cultures and immigrant communities", observed Vice Mayor Juslyn Manalo. "It was imperative Daly City Council took a stand to protect and ensure all immigrants feel safe in our city. I am proud to bring this urgent issue to the forefront," Manalo stated.

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The resolution approved by the City Council acknowledges the recent proposals and immigration-related actions undertaken by the federal government that have created fear and concerns among residents in Daly City about personal freedom, civil rights and the treatment of immigrants. Although Daly City has historically acted in principle as a safe haven or sanctuary for all residents, regardless of immigration status or citizenship, the City Council expressed a concern that residents wanted a more definitive statement from local elected representatives about this longstanding, "informal" policy. The City of Daly City does not require evidence of citizenship or immigration status for any resident seeking access to public services, which are provided on an equitable basis to every member of the community.

The attached resolution affirms the City of Daly City's commitment to support and respect its diverse community. It expressly states that the City will continue to uphold the beliefs and principles that have guided the growth of the largest community in San Mateo County as a welcoming place that embraces individuals and families of all backgrounds without regard to ethnic or national origin, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, economic or immigration status.

Of particular note, the resolution conveys a firm commitment to uphold the Constitution of the United States and the traditions of law and due process embodied in it which allow all residents to live free of discrimination, persecution, harassment and assault. It further recognizes the importance of public safety to residents of the City and expresses a responsibility to provide appropriate cooperation with Federal immigration agencies in matters involving felony criminal activity and the protection of public safety.

Incorporated in the resolution is a series of principles which convey the policies of the City which will govern the implementation of the document's guidelines, including an irrefutable reference to the federal government's sole responsibility for enforcement of federal immigration laws.

The City Council's deliberation of the resolution was supported by a large group of community activists and supporters present who urged the legislative body during the public comment period to protect all residents against discrimination based on immigration status.

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