

CHARLOTTE CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Whereas, on May 26, 2015, the Charlotte City Council unanimously adopted a Resolution on the Protection of Civil Liberties, which the Resolution states that "the Charlotte City Council recognizes that the community is comprised of a diverse population, which is vital to the City of Charlotte" and "the Council seeks to foster trust with all members of our community", and

Whereas, on December 19, 2016, the Charlotte City Council unanimously adopted a Resolution stating the Council's opposition to discrimination, and

Whereas, in June 2017, President Donald Trump said 15,000 recent immigrants from Haiti "all have AIDS" and that 40,000 Nigerians, once seeing the United States, would never "go back to their huts" in Africa, and

Whereas, in August 2017, President Donald Trump called some of those who marched alongside white supremacists in Charlottesville, Va., last August "very fine people."

Whereas, on May 16, 2018, President Trump referred to undocumented immigrants as "animals."

Whereas, on July 14, 2019, President Donald Trump suggested that four minority United States congresswomen, all of whom are American citizens and three of whom were born in the United States, should "go back to "the totally broken and crime infested places from which they came."

Whereas, on July 17, 2019, President Donald Trump held a rally in Greenville, NC where his supporters chanted "Send her Back" in reference to Congresswoman Ilhan Omar.

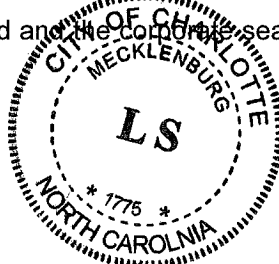
Whereas, the Council deems it imperative to condemn such racist and xenophobic language that only serves to stoke fear of others and perpetuate division everywhere based on ethnicity, religion, and/or race.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Charlotte City Council hereby: (i) acknowledges that many of the City's residents are immigrants and/or people of color; (ii) believes that Charlotte should always be welcoming and inviting of people of diverse and different ethnicities and background, so long as those differences do not lead to personal insults or violent discourse; (iii) strongly condemns all of President Donald Trump's racist and xenophobic social media tweets and comments; (iv) condemns all hate speech, bigotry, racism, and discrimination, wherever it may occur, especially from the highest levels of government.

CERTIFICATION

I, Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, in regular session convened on the 22nd day of July 2019, the reference having been made in Minute Book 148 and recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, Page(s) 747-748.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, this 22nd day of July 2019.



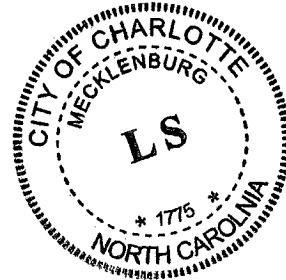
Stephanie C. Kelly
Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk, MMC, NCCMC



**MAYOR'S OFFICE
M E M O R A N D U M**

July 22, 2019

TO: City Council Members
FROM: Vi Lyles, Mayor
SUBJECT: Agenda Item



As Mayor, I had the opportunity to speak about the Greenville rally which took place last week – including the chants of “send her back.” I know that rally, and the agreement to host the RNC, lies at the forefront of our residents’ concerns, for it is our duty to deny racist and xenophobic voices. Such voices are not consistent with our community values of inclusion and diversity.

Today’s agenda includes actions and issues most pressing to the city and to myself, as a mayor who addresses the democratic principles of the poor and working class – for example, affordable housing for residents grappling with housing insecurity. I hope our residents know that, as Mayor, my focus – at all times – is on Charlotte’s success, today and for years to come.

For all those who wish to serve or have ever wished to serve as Mayor, I hope there is a constant in allowing citizens to see our government as nonpartisan and open to dialogue and debate.

Today I was asked to deviate from our rules of procedure that are currently in place to allow Council to consider a resolution. To prevent the chaos of debate over rules, I am placing this item on tonight’s agenda.

c: Marcus D. Jones, City Manager
Patrick Baker, City Attorney