

HAYWARD CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 21-223

INTRODUCED BY Mayor Halliday

RESOLUTION APOLOGIZING TO BLACK, INDIGENOUS, CALIFORNIO, MEXICANO, LATINO, LATINX AND OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS OF COLOR ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF HAYWARD FOR ITS IMPLICIT AND EXPLICIT ROLE IN PERPETUATING INSTITUTIONAL RACISM IN THE CITY OF HAYWARD

WHEREAS, the City of Hayward, along with other jurisdictions and the real estate and banking industries participated in the discriminatory practice of redlining, which systematically prevented Black, Indigenous, Californio, Mexicano, Latino, Latinx and other community members of color from owning property in our city; and

WHEREAS, Russell City in unincorporated Hayward was home to a large and thriving Black, Indigenous, Californio, Mexicano, Latino, and Latinx population and a vibrant music scene and, following annexation into the City of Hayward, all residents were evicted and many were burned out of their homes and community without appropriate compensation in 1966; and

WHEREAS, current Hayward demographics reflect that Black, Indigenous, and other community members of color are disproportionately renters, indicating that the adverse consequences of Hayward's history of redlining continues to impact Black, Indigenous, and other community members of color to this day, including structural, financial, physical, medical, and emotional harm; and

WHEREAS, current educational status of Black, Indigenous, and other students of color reflect the negative impact on the generations that followed the displacement of the residents of Russell City in unincorporated Hayward; and

WHEREAS, home and business ownership has been shown to facilitate intergenerational wealth and housing stability is linked to physical and mental health and academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, in order to achieve equity and basic fairness, governments and municipalities must conduct a reassessment and genuine evaluation of the power structures currently in place, and make efforts to enact policies to shift power and ownership to people who have been excluded from equal participation in education, commerce and governance; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hayward has begun to understand and dismantle systemic racism through its hiring and recruitment practices for jobs and commissions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hayward has a long history of taking action to protect civil rights and denounce any form of prejudice and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, in 1992 the City of Hayward adopted the original 1992 Anti-Discrimination Action Plan (ADAP); and

WHEREAS, in 2017 the City established a limited term Community Task Force to update the ADAP and address increasing community concerns about nationwide discrimination; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 the City Council adopted a resolution declaring the City of Hayward a Sanctuary City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hayward has made a firm commitment to being an Inclusive, Equitable, and Compassionate Community for Black, Indigenous, Californio, Mexicano, Latino, Latinx and other community members of color; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 the City of Hayward joined the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE), a national network of government working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all; and

WHEREAS, through its involvement in GARE the City has developed a Racial Equity Action Plan;

WHEREAS, in 2021 the City of Hayward officially recognized Juneteenth as a holiday within the City of Hayward; and

WHEREAS, there is more work to be done.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council and Staff apologize to current and previous residents et al. for the City's role in the impacts noted above and commit to taking actionable steps to address these harms, including but not limited to the commitments identified in the associated Action Plan.

IN COUNCIL, HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA November 16, 2021.

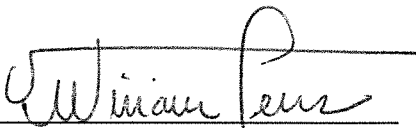
ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Andrews, Lamnin, Márquez, Salinas, Wahab, Zermeño  
MAYOR: Halliday


NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ATTEST:   
City Clerk of the City of Hayward

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
City Attorney of the City of Hayward