

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF REAFFIRMING)	RESOLUTION NO. 17-4777
METRO’S SUPPORT FOR STABILITY,)	
OPPORTUNITY, SAFETY AND JUSTICE FOR)	Introduced by Councilor Kathryn Harrington
ALL PEOPLE LIVING IN OUR SHARED		
REGION		

WHEREAS, our shared prosperity is the result of the contributions of people of many heritages, including the indigenous first people, immigrants from Europe, Mexico, Asia and now Iraq, Syria, Libya, Iran, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen and other countries around the world; and,

WHEREAS, greater Portland metropolitan region’s Muslim community of around 20,000 people is an important part of our regional diversity and growing multicultural identity; and,

WHEREAS, since 2002 Oregon has welcomed nearly 66,000 refugees; and,

WHEREAS, as of September 2016, nearly 12,000 children and young people applied for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program in Oregon for an opportunity to have a bright future without fear of being separated from their family, loved ones and community; and,

WHEREAS, the Portland region’s cultural and policy environment is richer and better when all of our regional residents can fully participate in and be integrated into the social, civic and economic fabric of their adopted region; and,

WHEREAS, our region is stronger when all people are free from fear and the recent White House travel ban and executive actions against immigrants create unnecessary fear and uncertainty; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council, as the government agency overseeing the Portland metropolitan region comprising Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties that are home to 1.7 million residents, and elected officials from around the region have identified equity, prosperity and community livability among its six desired outcomes; and,

WHEREAS, Metro has also identified public service, teamwork and respect as key values of the regional government and for greater Portland as a whole; and,

WHEREAS, the Metro Council adopted an agency Diversity Action Plan in 2012 and a Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in June, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, Metro serves the public in preparing for tomorrow, as well as operating business and arts venues – the Oregon Convention Center, Portland’s Centers for the Arts, the Oregon Zoo and the Portland Expo Center as well as regional parks, natural areas, garbage and recycling facilities and programs – that all support the cultural and economic vitality of our region; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED

1. The Metro Council stands with the residents of the Portland region in supporting stability, opportunity, safety and justice for all of those living in our shared region; and,
2. The Metro Council reaffirms its commitment to building community trust; and,
3. The Metro Council reaffirms its commitment to its core mission of supporting the region's six desired outcomes, and ensuring that these outcomes are accessible to all residents of our region; and,
4. The Metro Council reaffirms its commitment to the regional government's six core values of public service, excellence, teamwork, respect, innovation and sustainability; and,
5. The Metro Council will continue to support staff in its efforts to advance Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to address systemic inequities that impact our communities in the region, including actions identified in Metro's Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; and,
6. The Metro Council directs staff to serve all residents of the region, welcome them to our venues, and ensure that our venues and services are accessible and safe to all residents, regardless of immigration status, primary language, ancestry, race, ethnicity, national origin, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, physical or mental ability, or religion.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 2nd day of March, 2017.

Tom Hughes, Council President

Approved as to Form:

Alison R. Kean, Metro Attorney