

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF DECLARING WHAT
METRO STANDS FOR

) RESOLUTION NO. 19-5016
)
) Introduced by Councilor Sam Chase and
Councilor Bob Stacey

WHEREAS, to anchor future urban planning to shared regional values, in 2008 the Metro Council adopted six desired outcomes for the region which are: people live, work and play in vibrant communities where their everyday needs are easily accessible; current and future residents benefit from the region's sustained economic competitiveness and prosperity; people have safe and reliable transportation choices that enhance their quality of life; the region is a leader on climate change, and on minimizing contributions to global warming; current and future generations enjoy clean air, clean water and healthy ecosystems; and equity exists relative to the benefits and burdens of growth and change to the region's communities; and

WHEREAS, Metro strives to cultivate diversity, advance equity and practice inclusion in all of its work to ensure shared prosperity, a culture of civility and respect is necessary to foster safe, welcoming and thriving communities; and

WHEREAS, Metro recognizes that greater Portland is built upon the ceded land of many groups of indigenous people who have lived here since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, Oregon has a history of racist government practices dating to its founding and those practices have excluded and actively harmed communities of color, we must overcome that legacy by elevating voices of communities of color in decision-making around the shared future of the region; and

WHEREAS, white supremacy and white nationalism are contrary to the ideals of the United States, the State of Oregon, and the Metro region, sentiments and actions supporting this ideology must not be tolerated or accepted in our communities and all efforts will be made to counter these ideals and support our whole community including immigrants, refugees, all religions, all genders and sexualities, all races and all people; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council remains committed to enhancing greater Portland's economy and ensuring equitable access to economic and employment opportunities, equal pay and livable wages, affordable housing, and transportation choices; and

WHEREAS, the greater Portland region has a longstanding commitment to maintaining environmental quality, addressing the impacts of human-caused climate change and leading on climate action through science-informed decision-making, innovation and investments in reducing and mitigating pollution, conservation and education of species, and preparing for the impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, vulnerable communities across the region are most impacted by climate change and the detrimental consequences to the health of our environment—especially communities of color and low income communities—a practice of environmental justice must inform all of our actions around development, growth, species conservation, land stewardship and resiliency; and

WHEREAS, Metro is committed to the health and safety of all our residents and will make space for civil dialogue and participation without denigrating, bullying or demeaning other people or their viewpoints; and

WHEREAS, from Charleston to Oak Creek, Pittsburgh to El Paso, racially motivated acts of violence have taken the lives of dozens of Americans, killing more people than any other type domestic extremism since 9/11, action must be taken; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Metro Council stands with all of our community members regardless of race, creed, national origin, gender expression, religion, age, ability or other characteristics, and will strive to lift these voices in the actions of this agency to advance equity and ensure respectful dialogue in our region; and,
2. The Metro Council will continue to work to advance economic justice in greater Portland; and,
3. The Metro Council will take actions that address climate change, reduce pollution and prepare the Portland region for the future; and
4. The Metro Council will support policies that advance the health and personal safety of the people of greater Portland; and
5. The Metro Council adopts the principles of civility, respect and equity; economic justice; climate action; and health and safety as its primary goals.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this ____ day of September 2019.

Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:

Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney