

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OXNARD**

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF OXNARD CONDEMNING POLICE BRUTALITY AND  
DECLARING RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Oxnard holds the humanity and precious lives of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and George Floyd and all victims of racism in our hearts;

**WHEREAS**, racism has been a historically negative part of American history, and communities of color, including Black people, have suffered because of it for generations;

**WHEREAS**, the struggles of Black people have been highlighted most recently by alarming findings that Black Americans are dying from COVID-19 at a much higher rate compared to White Americans in part due to long standing, unaddressed health disparities as well as systematic racism and other socioeconomic inequities;

**WHEREAS**, the negative repercussions of historical racism--including but not limited to Jim Crow laws, discriminatory lending practices of the 20th century known as "redlining," and the current limitations and access to healthy, nutritious food--have lowered educational, employment, and housing opportunities; increased rates of lead poisoning, limited access to clean water, and created other negative environmental impacts; increased rates of infant mortality; and reduced the life expectancy of people of color;

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has found that the average life expectancy of Black people is four years lower than that of White people;

**WHEREAS**, the racism that permeates American society has historically resulted in harm to people of color, particularly Black people, including incidents of excessive force by police;

**WHEREAS**, there is a correlation between poor police-community relations and corresponding levels of excessive force used by police;

**WHEREAS**, there is a continuing pattern of disparate treatment of people of color, especially Black people, across the country throughout the criminal justice system, beginning with initial police contacts and continuing through prosecutorial decisions, jury verdicts, sentencing guidelines, and custody and post-custody determinations;

**WHEREAS**, the use of excessive force by police across the country has robbed communities of color, especially the Black community, of precious lives and has inflicted intergenerational harm and trauma; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has a moral and constitutional obligation to condemn racism and police brutality across the country.

**NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Oxnard:**

1. Declares that racism in our country is a public health crisis and condemns police brutality;
2. Declares that law enforcement officers and police departments must be held accountable for their actions;
3. Calls for the City of Oxnard to take a stand against racism;
4. Declares that the Oxnard Police Department is dedicated to serving all people with fairness, dignity and respect;
5. Declares that the Oxnard Police Department is committed to continually improving all of its policies and practices; and
6. Calls for continued sound and anti-racist law enforcement policies that address police brutality.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020, by the following vote:**

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Flynn, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Ascencion, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen M. Fischer, City Attorney