



**CITY OF KIRKLAND**  
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www.kirklandwa.gov

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** City Council  
**From:** Kurt Triplett, City Manager  
**Date:** February 13, 2017  
**Subject:** SAFE, INCLUSIVE AND WELCOMING CITY RESOLUTION

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council approves a resolution declaring Kirkland as a safe, inclusive and welcoming city. The resolution affirms as policy the statements in the Mayor's January 3, 2017 proclamation. The resolution also provides staff with direction on next steps, including codifying current City policies related to immigration status and convening a community conversation to identify ways the City, residents and businesses can work together to help keep Kirkland a safe, inclusive and welcoming city.

### **BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:**

On January 3, 2017, the Mayor, with the support of the City Council, reiterated the values of the City of Kirkland by proclaiming Kirkland as a safe, inclusive and welcoming city for all people, and requested that City staff assist the City Council in developing and implementing a program to communicate the City's values. The Council also directed that keeping Kirkland as a welcoming community be part of the agenda at the Council's February 3, 2017 retreat.

At the retreat, the City Council expressed the strong desire that the City's commitment go beyond words and include specific, tangible actions that the City Council could take to implement these values of diversity and inclusion. The Council provided direction for staff to establish the elements of the proclamation as City policy through a resolution. The Council also requested that an ordinance similar to the one adopted by the City of Burien be brought to the Council for review and potential adoption. That ordinance is also on the February 21, 2017 Council agenda and includes a prohibition on collecting information based on religious affiliation. Finally, the Council requested staff to convene a community conversation around these issues so that additional actions could be identified in partnership with the community.

The resolution is based on the January 3 Mayoral proclamation with minor edits for clarity and structure. In addition, the resolution calls for the community conversation and adoption of an ordinance codifying existing policy related to immigration. Finally, resolution directs the City Manager to review the City of Kirkland's policies and programs and to evaluate administrative and legislative actions for Council review and approval that will help keep Kirkland a just society that respects and welcomes all people.

RESOLUTION R-5240

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND  
DECLARING KIRKLAND AS A SAFE, INCLUSIVE AND WELCOMING CITY  
FOR ALL PEOPLE.

1           WHEREAS, on January 3, 2017, the Mayor, with the support of  
2 the City Council, reiterated the values of the City of Kirkland by  
3 proclaiming Kirkland as a safe, inclusive and welcoming city for all  
4 people, and requested that City staff assist the City Council in  
5 developing and implementing a program to communicate the City's  
6 values; and  
7

8           WHEREAS, the City Council further discussed actions that could  
9 be taken to implement these values of diversity and inclusion at the  
10 Council's February 3, 2017 retreat, and the Council wishes to establish  
11 the elements of the proclamation as City policy through a resolution;  
12 and  
13

14           WHEREAS, Kirkland's vision statement describes the City as  
15 being a welcoming place to live, work and play, a place that highly  
16 values diversity and is respectful, fair, and inclusive, and also committed  
17 to providing neighborhoods and businesses that meet the needs of a  
18 variety of incomes, ages and life styles, through community  
19 engagement that creates a sense of belonging through shared values;  
20 and  
21

22           WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland is committed to protecting and  
23 serving everyone who resides in, works in, or visits Kirkland without  
24 discrimination based on race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age,  
25 income or economic status, political affiliation, military status, sexual  
26 orientation, or physical, mental or sensory ability; and  
27

28           WHEREAS, Kirkland believes in the dignity, equality and  
29 constitutional and civil rights of all people, and will not tolerate hate,  
30 intolerance, discrimination, harassment or any behavior that creates  
31 fear, isolation or intimidation; and  
32

33           WHEREAS, Kirkland's vibrancy and sense of community is  
34 stronger for our diversity and shared values of acceptance and respect;  
35 and  
36

37           WHEREAS, the City Council supports these principles and strives  
38 to reflect them in their actions as elected officials in Kirkland; and

39 WHEREAS, Kirkland City employees also support these principles  
40 and strive to embody these ideals every day as they provide critical  
41 services in support of the public health, safety and welfare, such as,  
42 police, fire, parks, public works and much more in an inclusive and  
43 equitable manner to all residents, visitors and businesses in Kirkland.  
44

45 NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City  
46 of Kirkland as follows:  
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48 Section 1. The City Manager is hereby authorized and directed  
49 to review the City of Kirkland’s policies and programs and to evaluate  
50 administrative and legislative actions for Council review and approval  
51 that keep Kirkland a just society that respects and welcomes all people,  
52

53 Section 2. The City Manager shall propose legislation that  
54 codifies current City department policies related to non-discrimination,  
55 immigration status and religious affiliation.  
56

57 Section 3. The City Manager shall invite the community to come  
58 together to discuss and support the shared values of diversity and  
59 inclusion and identify additional actions that can be taken by the City  
60 and the community to help keep Kirkland a safe, welcoming and  
61 inclusive city for all people.  
62

63 Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open  
64 meeting this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.  
65

66 Signed in authentication thereof this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
67 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk