

RESOLUTION R-5312

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND  
SETTING FORTH THE NEED FOR COMMUNITY DIALOGUE AND ACTION  
ON THE TOPIC OF GUN SAFETY AND COMMUNITY SAFETY.

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

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8           WHEREAS, on February 21, 2017, the City Council passed  
9 Resolution R-5240 formalizing the themes in the proclamation and  
10 directing the City Manager to identify through community discussions  
11 additional actions that can be taken by the City and the community to  
12 help keep Kirkland a safe, welcoming and inclusive city for all people;  
13 and

14           WHEREAS, on February 21, 2017, the City Council also enacted  
15 Ordinance O-4558 adding a new Chapter 3.18 to the Kirkland Municipal  
16 Code entitled "Sustaining a Safe, Inclusive and Welcoming City"; and

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18           WHEREAS, on March 14, 2018, the City Council welcomed over  
19 70 parents from various Kirkland schools to City Hall to hear community  
20 concerns and discuss potential actions that could be taken to help keep  
21 students safe from gun violence; and

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23           WHEREAS, on March 21, 2018, the City of Kirkland and the Lake  
24 Washington School District co-hosted a community discussion about  
25 school safety and community safety at which members of the public  
26 requested further action by the City and School District on the topics of  
27 gun safety and community safety; and

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29           WHEREAS, the federal and state constitutions guarantee the  
30 right to keep and bear arms, and many Kirkland residents legally own  
31 firearms for reasons such as hunting, recreation and personal  
32 protection; and

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34           WHEREAS, input from all community members, including gun  
35 owners, is necessary to promote safe and responsible gun ownership in  
36 order to reduce mass shootings, homicides, suicides and accidental  
37 shootings; and

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39           WHEREAS, City staff are actively implementing a program of  
40 community engagement for the 2019-2020 biennial budget, and  
41 understanding the community's concerns and priorities on the topics of

42 gun safety and community safety will help inform the City's fiscal and  
43 programmatic priorities as part of the adoption of the 2019-2020  
44 biennial budget and City Work Program; and

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46 WHEREAS, Kirkland's vision statement describes the City as a  
47 welcoming place to live, work and play, a place that highly values  
48 diversity and is respectful, fair, and inclusive, and that is also committed  
49 to providing neighborhoods and businesses that meet the needs of a  
50 variety of incomes, ages and life styles, through community  
51 engagement that creates a sense of belonging through shared values.

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53 NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City  
54 of Kirkland as follows:

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56 Section 1. The City Manager is hereby authorized and directed  
57 to seek the community's input on the topic of gun safety and community  
58 safety through a Town Hall and other public events, on-line surveys,  
59 interactive social media, and additional engagement strategies that  
60 invite a wide range of views.

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62 Section 2. The City Manager is further authorized and directed  
63 to research methods of promoting safe and responsible gun ownership  
64 at the state and local levels in order to reduce mass shootings,  
65 homicides, suicides and accidental shootings, including improved  
66 enforcement of existing firearm laws and regulations, and to collaborate  
67 with public and private partners and stakeholders in connection with  
68 possible state and local legislation around gun safety and community  
69 safety, including related mental health issues and initiatives.

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71 Section 3. The City Manager shall report the results of the  
72 community feedback, research and partnership discussions to the City  
73 Council, no later than July 17, 2018. The City Manager's report shall  
74 include options for potential changes to City ordinances and policies,  
75 City budget initiatives, and the City's state legislative agenda based on  
76 the results.

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78 Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open  
79 meeting this 1st day of May, 2018.

80  
81 Signed in authentication thereof this 1st day of May, 2018.

  
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Amy Walen, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Kathi Anderson, City Clerk