

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. CP16-1184 Standing Together with Denver Moving Forward

WHEREAS, Denver has declared itself repeatedly as a city welcoming and inclusive of people of all races, colors, creeds, and national origin, marked clearly by then Mayor Wellington Webb's 1998 Executive Order 116 which states, "The City and County of Denver is an ethnically and culturally pluralistic city. We cherish this diversity for enhancing the quality of life in our community. As Denver emerges as an international city in a global economy, we can anticipate that foreign born residents will continue to make Denver their home. We welcome all to share Denver's warm hospitality. We must respect this diversity and assure that the human rights of our citizens are protected," and that "...the City will not tolerate unlawful discrimination in any form, and that the City remains firmly committed to the delivery of services to all of its residents"; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Michael B. Hancock wrote on November 10, 2016 that, "In Denver, our priorities haven't changed. We will remain focused on what matters – making Denver the best place in the nation to work, live and play. We will continue to tackle the key issues affecting the people of Denver, like transportation, affordable housing, homelessness, job creation and criminal justice reform. This election has been a long and challenging process for all of us. Now it's time to move forward, together"; and

WHEREAS, the recent hotly contested national election has affected all of us in our Denver community in many different ways. We as members of the Denver City Council pledge to work together and move the crucial dialogue forward that ensures all Denver citizens feel their voice is heard. We commit to evaluate our systems of government with an inclusive lens. Our communities will foster and ensure equity, social justice, and freedom from fear of persecution based on race, religious belief, country of origin, sexual orientation, gender, physical ability, or age. Specifically, we must work together to support our brothers and sisters in communities of color, LGBTQ, immigrants, refugees, and those of the Muslim and Jewish faiths who at times have been targeted in unjust ways; and

WHEREAS, we members of the Denver City Council advocate for expanded community outreach, engagement and authentic work together to empower each Denver citizen to create a society which does not tolerate any act of racism or oppression toward another individual; and

WHEREAS, each Denver citizen has the responsibility to engage, learn, and debate different views and beliefs in a civil, robust manner. This responsibility includes understanding the stereotypes and biases that we all hold and that inclusivity work is never finished.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council of the City and County of Denver hereby commits to participate in and help to expand inclusivity conversations and systems that are free of oppression.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to the City Council Central Staff Office to be hung in the reception area so that all that enter know our commitment to every individual who visits or calls our great city of Denver home.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL November 21, 2016

PRESIDENT