

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ (CM)

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE AUTHORIZING THE DISPLAY OF THE BLACK LIVES MATTER FLAG AT THE WATSONVILLE CIVIC PLAZA DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY IN COMMEMORATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL POLICY FOR OUTDOOR DISPLAY OF COMMEMORATIVE FLAGS**

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month pays tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship in American society; and

**WHEREAS**, Black Lives Matter was founded by Patrisse Cullors, Alicia Garza and Opal Tometi in 2013 in response to the acquittal of George Zimmerman for the murder of Trayvon Martin. Their efforts grew into a global movement to fight against injustice for people of color; and

**WHEREAS**, the Black Lives Matter movement, like the Black and African American civil rights movements before it, has effectively articulated the injustices that exist at the intersections of race, class, and gender; including mass incarceration, police brutality, poverty, housing, income disparity, homophobia, gender inequality, healthcare access and outcomes, and educational outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2017, Australia's Sydney University awarded the Sydney Peace Prize to its founders. The international prestigious award that honors peacemakers around the world for promoting human rights, nonviolence, and "peace with justice"; and

**WHEREAS**; the flag is black, charged with the official logo of the movement: words BLACK LIVES MATTER in white, inscribed in three rows, and three yellow horizontal lines below; and

**WHEREAS**, the display of the Black Lives Matter during the month of February, the City Council acknowledges that throughout the United States' history, institutional and structural racism has caused division and fear for communities, and that the Council shares in the responsibility to respond to such circumstances in our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, AS FOLLOWS:**

That the Council hereby authorizes the display of the official Black Lives Matter flag at the Watsonville Civic Plaza, during the month of February, in accordance with the Council Policy for Outdoor Display of Commemorative Flags.

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