

RESOLUTION NO. _____ (CM)

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
WATSONVILLE FORMALLY ADOPTING THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE
CHILDREN AND YOUTH BILL OF RIGHTS**

WHEREAS, the Watsonville City Council's 2021 to 2025 Strategic Plan prioritizes Community Engagement & Well-being and Public Safety, with an emphasis on Services for Youth and Youth Development; and

WHEREAS, young people represent the present and future of our community; and

WHEREAS, 32% of the Watsonville population is 18 years of age or under; and

WHEREAS, each year the City of Watsonville positively impacts thousands of youth through camps, sports, enrichment programs, library services, and community events; and

WHEREAS, the Watsonville City Council recently adopted the 41 Developmental Assets as a framework for guiding all policies and programs in the City as they relate to youth and teen well-being; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of a Children and Youth Bill of Rights affirms the City's commitment to prioritizing policies, programs, and initiatives that support the holistic development of young people and align with the principles of the 41 Developmental Assets.

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

1. This action is not subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq. and the CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs. §§ 15000 et. seq.), including without limitation, Public Resources Code section 21065 and California Code of Regulations 15378 as this

is not a “project” that may cause a direct, or reasonably foreseeable indirect, physical change in the environment and because the action constitutes organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. Additionally, even if a “project,” the action would be exempt under the “common sense” exception (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15061(b)(3)) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that this action may have a significant effect on the environment.

2. The Council of the City of Watsonville hereby adopts the City of Watsonville Children and Youth Bill of Rights and hereby commits to supporting our City’s youth community and ensuring:

- a. They have a healthy mind, body and spirit that enables them to maximize their potential.
- b. They develop a healthy attachment to a parent, guardian, or caregiver and an ongoing relationship with a caring and supporting adult.
- c. They have a safe and healthy environment, including homes, schools, neighborhoods and communities.
- d. They have access to quality education that promotes future success in school, career and life.
- e. They have training in life skills that will prepare them to live independently, be self-sufficient and positively contribute to their community.
- f. They have employment opportunities with protections from unfair labor practices.
- g. They have freedom from mistreatment, abuse and neglect.
- h. They voice opinions in matters of interest to them, develop their leadership capacity and engage in their community.
- i. They feel supported by the larger community and maintain a sense of hope for the future.

j. They are encouraged to explore and express their innate curiosity and creativity.

3. That the City of Watsonville will work collaboratively with community partners, educational institutions, and local organizations to uphold and implement the principles outlined in this Children and Youth Bill of Rights.
