



Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, January 19, 2021

TO: City Council

FROM: Beatriz Vazquez Flores, City Clerk's Office

SUBJECT: PRIDE FLAG

STATEMENT OF ISSUES:

Throughout the years, the City has received requests from the public to display the Pride flag on City property. Therefore, Mayor Dutra directed staff to prepare a resolution for Council to consider authorizing the Pride flag to be displayed at the Civic Plaza.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ANNUAL DISPLAY OF THE PRIDE FLAG AT THE CIVIC PLAZA INSTEAD OF THE CITY FLAG DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE TO RECOGNIZE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, AND QUEER (LGBTQ) PRIDE MONTH

DISCUSSION:

The City flies the U.S., California, and City flags in in the City Plaza in front of the Library entrance, but the City does not have a flag policy. The City does comply with Chapter 1-The Flag of Title 4 of the United States Code to display the U.S. and California flags.

On May 19, 1990, the City Council authorized to display the Prisoner of War (POW)/Missing in Action (MIA) flag at the City Plaza below the State of California flag. On February 23, 2010, the Council authorized the creation of a City flag and its display at the Civic Plaza. It would be appropriate for the Council to authorize the display of any other flag.

Staff recommends displaying the Pride flag instead of the City flag to avoid the City's flag obstructing the view of Pride flag.

According to the Library of Congress, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Pride Month ("LGBTQ" Pride Month) is currently celebrated each year in the month of June to honor the 1969 Stonewall riots in Manhattan. The Stonewall riots were a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States. In the United States the last Sunday in June was initially celebrated as "Gay Pride Day," but the actual day was flexible. In major cities across the nation the "day" soon grew to encompass a month-long series of events. Today, celebrations include pride parades, picnics, parties, workshops, symposia and concerts. The LGBTQ Pride Month events attract millions of participants around the world. Memorials are held during this month for those members of the community who have been lost to hate crimes or HIV/AIDS. The purpose of the commemorative month is to recognize the impact that

lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals have had on history locally, nationally and internationally.

LGBTQ History Month is also celebrated with annual month-long observances of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history, along with the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements. National Coming Out Day (October 11), as well as the first “March on Washington” in 1979, are commemorated in the LGBTQ community during LGBTQ History Month.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This action is consistent with the City’s Strategic Plan priorities of 05-Community Engagement & Well-Being.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The cost of the flags would be less than \$100 and would be funded from the City Council’s Office Equipment account.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

The Council could consider displaying the Pride flag at other City owned properties or not authorize the display of the Pride flag.

ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES: None

CITY COUNCIL ACTION RECOMMENDED:

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