

City Council

Mike Anderson, Mayor Susan Candell, Vice Mayor Steven Bliss, Council Member Cameron Burks, Council Member Teresa Gerringer, Council Member

PROCLAMATION

City of Lafayette, California

WHEREAS, on May 25, 2020, George Floyd was detained by four Minneapolis city police officers after being accused of using counterfeit currency; and

WHEREAS, based upon a video taken by a bystander at the scene, the handcuffed and prone Mr. Floyd was held face down in the street by an officer kneeling on Mr. Floyd's neck for nearly nine minutes while he complained loudly that he could not breath; and

WHEREAS, the officer continued to "hold" Mr. Floyd in this position until he became unresponsive and ultimately died, leading to a charge of Murder by the District Attorney against the officer; and

WHEREAS, this senseless use of excessive force by this officer has ignited protests around the world focused on the legacy of brutality and indifference found in police forces throughout the country undermining the public's confidence in police to be impartial and fair in the enforcement of the law; and

WHEREAS, George Floyd's death has reminded us that racism persists in our country, and that communities of color have for too long felt the pain, hurt, anger, and fear caused by the institutions that fail to listen, acknowledge, or address their distress and economic hardships; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lafayette recognizes the deep sorrow and soul searching within our community caused by this tragedy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lafayette is committed to taking a leadership role in making the changes necessary to root out racism and bias insuring that ALL people are accepted and welcomed in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lafayette City Council shall make the work of restoring our residents' confidence in their government and law enforcement, an enduring priority and significant measure of its competence and effectiveness; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council, along with the City Manager, Chief of Police and staff, pledge to address the insidious forms of racism and prejudice within the community through the assessment and modification of policing and all other City services; to eliminate the institutional actions that sustain these injustices.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the City of Lafayette this 23rd day of June, 2020.

Mike Anderson, Mayor