

**CITY OF REDMOND  
RESOLUTION NO. 1534**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDMOND, WASHINGTON, DECLARING REDMOND TO BE A HATE FREE ZONE AND REAFFIRMING REDMOND VALUES OF INCLUSION

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WHEREAS On January 17, 2017, the City Council passed a resolution affirming our commitment to cultural inclusion in all city operations, recognizing that diversity of all backgrounds of people in our community makes us richer and stronger, and pledging to continue adopting policies that improve our culture of inclusion; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redmond does not tolerate hate or discriminatory acts; and

WHEREAS on April 20, 2020, the Mayor and Council passed a resolution affirming our commitment to oppose hate, discrimination, bias, and bigotry; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redmond is committed to cultural inclusiveness and equal treatment of all community members, and has urged other local jurisdictions and the State of Washington to take similar action to support and advance these principles; and

WHEREAS, hateful rhetoric and hate crimes have been rising locally and globally over the last several years, including anti-

Muslim threats, discrimination, and attacks, even in the City of Redmond, and Redmond residents have expressed fear for their safety and security in light of these events; and

WHEREAS, many residents and over 140 local and national organizations have approached our city to raise concerns about recent anti-Muslim bigotry and rhetoric by individuals and groups in Redmond; and

WHEREAS, the city received comments from a broad mix of groups from our diverse community representing Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Dalits, Christians, Jews, Buddhists, atheists/agnostics, BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) communities, immigrants/refugees, and more; and

WHEREAS, such anti-Muslim views and positions do not align with the values or views of the City of Redmond, the Council or the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council hear the concerns of community members that the promotion of hate in our community can create an atmosphere for hate crimes and harassment to occur and we want to ensure that everyone can be safe and secure within our community; and

WHEREAS, we stand in solidarity with those in our community who have been impacted by Islamophobic rhetoric, threats, and discrimination, including our Muslim councilmember; and

WHEREAS, the promotion of hate and harassment has no place in the City of Redmond, which has adopted a "Welcoming City" resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDMOND, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

1. We declare Redmond to be a Hate Free Zone and we are committed to building a more inclusive community. We denounce all forms of hate, bigotry and harassment based on race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, or socio-economic status. This includes Islamophobia and anti-Muslim rhetoric promoted by any group or individual.
2. We pledge to use City resources towards equity and inclusion, and to not support, endorse, fund, or partner with organizations, groups, or individuals with a documented history of promoting hate, bigotry or harassment based on race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, or socio-economic status. This includes a commitment to not fund

or support groups that promote Islamophobia and anti-Muslim hate speech.

3. We encourage interfaith education and building understanding between our diverse community. This includes supporting initiatives and efforts that encourage learning facts about Islam/Muslims rather than myths and misconceptions, such as the national Facts Over Fear Campaign, [www.factsoverfear.org](http://www.factsoverfear.org).

ADOPTED by the Redmond City Council this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2020.

APPROVED:

  
ANGELA BIRNEY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
CHERYL XANTHOS, MMC, CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: August 14, 2020  
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: September 1, 2020  
RESOLUTION NO. 1534

YES: ANDERSON, CARSON, KRITZER, PADHYE  
NO: FIELDS, FORSYTHE, KHAN