

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DATE: MARCH 13, 2023

TO: HONORABLE COUNCILMEMBERS

FROM: MAYOR DAVID J. SHAPIRO

MAYOR PRO TEM ALICIA WEINTRAUB

BY: MARICELA HERNANDEZ, MMC, CPMC, CITY CLERK

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2023-1841, CONDEMNING

HATE CRIMES AND ANY OTHER FORM OF RACISM, RELIGIOUS OR ETHNIC BIAS, DISCRIMINATION, INCITEMENT

OF VIOLENCE, OR TARGETING A MINORITY

MEETING

DATE: MARCH 22, 2023

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2023-1841, condemning hate crimes and any other form of racism, religious or ethnic bias, discrimination, incitement of violence, or targeting a minority.

BACKGROUND:

The Calabasas community has been subjected to hate incidents, which the City Council has denounced. Most recently, the City Council made statements addressing and condemning hate crimes at the Council meetings of March 24 and May 26, 2021; and October 12 and 26, 2022.

Calabasas is not the only community to have been targeted. Other local cities have also been targeted, which illustrate a growing trend of hate incidents seen in communities regionally and across the State.

Under California law, a hate crime is a criminal act committed in whole or in part because of a victim's actual or perceived disability, gender, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or association with someone with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. Hate crimes are distinct from hate incidents, which are actions or behaviors motivated by hate that may be protected by the First Amendment right to freedom of expression. Examples of hate incidents include name-calling, insults, and distributing hate material in public places. If a hate incident threatens a person or property, it may become a hate crime.

The 2021 Hate Crime in California Report detailed hate crime events in California increased 32.6 percent from 1,330 in 2020 to 1,763 in 2021.

On December 7, 2022, the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations (LACCHR) released its 2021 Hate Crime Report (Attachment B), showing hate crimes have reached the highest level in 19 years. Reported hate crimes in Los Angeles County grew 23 percent from 641 in 2020 to 786 in 2021, according to the report. This is the largest number recorded since 2002.

Some of the other important findings in the LA County report include data that showed African Americans being the most frequent targets of reported hate crimes in the County, anti-Asian hate crimes reaching the highest total ever, explicitly anti-immigrant hate crimes hitting a historic high and a growth in hate crimes targeting the LGBTQ, Jewish, and Muslim communities.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2023-1841, condemning hate crimes and any other form of racism, religious or ethnic bias, discrimination, incitement of violence, or targeting a minority.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Resolution No. 2023-1841
- B. Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations (LACCHR) released its 2021 Hate Crime Report