

PROPOSED STATEMENT OF THE EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF CULVER CITY

Whereas, The LGBTQAI+ equality movement began in 1970 when a black transgender woman named Marsha P. Johnson, along with other LGBTQAI+ individuals, risked their lives to protest the over-policing of their community, and the injustice that threatened their existence; and

Whereas, The LGBTQAI+ equality movement has over the years endured through tragedy and struggle, including the slow and insufficient government response to assist those with HIV/AIDS, the ongoing lack of acceptance and affirmation, as well as the discriminatory and oppressive efforts today to legislate out of existence LGBTQAI+ people in states across the United States; and

Whereas, The unjust, oppressive, discriminatory, unequal, and violent treatment of LGBTQAI+ people has adversely impacted their quality of life. For example,

1. 28 % of transgender youth whose pronouns are not affirmed attempt suicide, and that number decreased to 12 % for those whose pronouns are affirmed; and
2. 43% of transgender youth have been bullied on school property; and 29% of transgender youth, 21% of gay and lesbian youth and 22% of bisexual youth have attempted suicide; and
3. 20% of youth in the juvenile justice system are gay, bisexual, questioning, gender nonconforming, or transgender compared with 4% to 6% of youth in the general population; and
4. One in five transgender people in the United States has experienced discrimination when seeking a home, and more than one in ten have been evicted from their homes because of their gender identity; and

Whereas, throughout much of the history of the United States, same-sex relationships were criminalized in many States and many LGBTQAI+ people in the United States were forced to hide their sexual orientations and gender identities while living in secrecy and fear; and

Whereas, LGBTQAI+ people in the United States continue to face disparities in employment, healthcare, education, and many other areas central to the pursuit of happiness; and

Whereas, LGBTQAI+ people in the United States, in particular transgender people, continue to face a disproportionately high risk of becoming victims of violent hate crimes; and

Whereas, Despite having to live their lives under these onerous conditions, LGBTQAI+ people in the United States have made, and continue to make, vital contributions to the United States and to the world in the fields of education, law, health, business, science, research, economic development, architecture, fashion, sports, government, music, film, technology, literature, civil rights, and politics; and

Whereas, LGBTQAI+ people in the United States serve, and have served, in positions in the Federal Government and State and local governments, including as members of Congress, Governors, mayors, and city council members;

Whereas, LGBTQAI+ people in the United States serve, and have served as law enforcement officers, firefighters, and first responders; and

Whereas, LGBTQAI+ people in the United States serve, and have served, in the United States Army, Coast Guard, Navy, Air Force, and Marines, honorably and with distinction and bravery;

Whereas, LGBTQAI+ people in the United States continue to fight for their equal treatment, dignity, and respect; and to celebrate their identities, love, and contributions to the United States; and

Whereas, LGBTQAI+ people in the United States have achieved significant milestones, ensuring that future generations of LGBTQAI+ people in the United States will enjoy a more equal and just society; and

Whereas, LGBTQAI+ people in the United States remain determined to pursue equality, respect, and inclusion for all individuals regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity;

Now, Therefore, On This this 23rd day of May, 2023 the Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee of the City of Culver City:

- **Honors the resilience of LGBTQAI+ people, who are fighting to live authentically and freely; and**
- **Supports the rights, freedoms, and equal treatment of LGBTQAI+ people in the United States and around the world; and**
- **Acknowledges that LGBTQAI+ rights are human rights that are to be protected by the United States Constitution and numerous international treaties and conventions; and**
- **Encourages the celebration of June, 2023 as LGBTQAI+ Progress Pride Month in order to provide a lasting opportunity for all people to learn about the discrimination and inequality that the LGBTQAI+ community has endured, and continues to endure, and to celebrate the contributions of the LGBTQAI+ community; and**
- **Thanks the City Council of the City of Culver City for taking action at the City Council meeting of June 12th acknowledging June 2023 LGBTQAI+ as Progress Pride month, and thereby supporting the estimated 2,000 to 4,000 LGBTQAI+ people who live and work in Culver City.**

