

**Date : April 24, 2023**

**To : Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee (EHRAC)**

**From : Michelle Dennis, Member of the EHRAC**

**Subject: Flying the Progress Pride Flag Over City Hall During June, 2023**

**Background**

June 2023 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pride in the United States. Pride is celebrated during June each year as June was the month that the Stonewall riots took place. Pride also celebrates people coming together in love and friendship to show how far LGBTQ+ rights have come and how, in some places, there is still much more work to be done.

The original Pride flag became a symbol around the world of the LGBTQ+ community and its different communities. It was created by American artist and gay rights activist Gilbert Baker and was first flown in 1978. It originally had eight stripes rather than the six strips now seen. The current six strips represent:

- Red -- Life
- Orange – Healing
- Yellow – Sunlight
- Green – Nature
- Blue – Peace/Harmony/Art
- Violet - Spirit

Over the years, the original flag has been redesigned to better represent and reflect more marginalized communities.

In 2018, the flag was redesigned by Daniel Quasar and began to be called the Progress Pride Flag. It included black, brown, pink, pale blue and white stripes, to represent marginalized people of color in the LGBTQ+ community, including the Transgender community, and those living with HIV/AIDS. The arrow points to the right to show forward movement, while being along the left edge showing that progress still needs to be made.

In 2021, Valentino Vecchiotti of Intersex Equality Rights UK, shared an updated version to the Progress Pride flag, which included a yellow triangle and purple circle to represent the intersex community.

The resulting flag is shown below.



The most recent update to the Progress Pride flag includes the Intersex community

It is estimated that between 2,000 and 4,000 LGBTQAI+ people either live in or come to work in Culver City. Recognition by the City of Culver City of this sizable number of people living in or working in the City would be a positive step towards improving human relations in this community.

### **Recommendation**

In honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pride in the United States and the significant number of LGBTQAI+ people in the City, and in the spirit of promoting human relations within the City of Culver City, the EHRAC recommends to the City Manager and the City Council that the above Progress Pride flag be flown over City Hall during June, 2023.