



Office of the Mayor

CONSENT CALENDAR

November 9, 2021

To: Honorable Members of the City Council

From: Mayor Jesse Arreguín (Author), Councilmember Hahn (Co-Sponsor) and Councilmember Wengraf (Co-Sponsor)

Subject: United Against Hate Week 2021

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) Adopt a Resolution declaring November 14th – 20th, 2021 as United Against Hate Week
- 2) Adopt a Resolution approving the D-13 expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$250 per Councilmember, to Not in Our Town for United Against Hate Week.

BACKGROUND

Starting in Berkeley in 2017 in response to far-right rallies, United Against Hate was originally a poster campaign that has since transformed into an annual event. The goal for United Against Hate Week is to provide communities with the tools, resources, and support they need to create locally driven actions to stand united against growing intolerance. This annual week of activities and follow up events are designed to not just raise awareness about the dangers of hate and the need for respect and civil discourse, but to help community members build stronger connections with civic leaders, businesses, and schools, so that deeper engagement can continue year-round.

Not in Our Town is a non-profit that serves communities across the country working to build safety, inclusion and equity for all. They are the facilitating organization for United Against Hate Week, and are requesting donations from each jurisdiction participating in this year's event. Funds raised from these jurisdictions will be used for the printing of signs, communications, and promotion of the event and will leverage additional foundation and grant funding.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

\$250 from the Mayor's D-13 account and other Councilmembers who wish to contribute.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with adopting this recommendation.

CONTACT PERSON

Mayor Jesse Arreguín 510-981-7100

United Against Hate Week 2021

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Attachments:

- 1: Resolution Proclaiming November 24-30 as United Against Hate Week
- 2: D-13 Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

COMMEMORATING UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK 2021

WHEREAS, the United States is a nation of immigrants, whose strength comes from its diversity; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution enshrines equality on all individuals, regardless of race, gender, orientation, religion, or political view; and

WHEREAS, recent rhetoric has generated a toxic environment that encourages the propagation of racist, xenophobic, anti-Semitic, sexist, homophobic, Islamophobic, and other bigoted views by emboldened hate groups and individuals;

WHEREAS, deep divisions within our country are the result of extreme ideology, further strengthening a cycle of mistrust and suspicion fueled by fear, anxiety, and insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the number of hate crimes across the United States has increased to the highest level in 12 years according to the 2020 FBI's annual Hate Crimes Report, with hate crimes against African Americans and Asian Americans especially increasing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley is dedicated to preventing and opposing hate and intolerance in our communities. Berkeley started United Against Hate Week in 2017, which has since expanded into a national movement; and

WHEREAS, education, compassion, and cooperation are key to unlocking understanding and embracing differences between people, with United Against Hate Week an important step in bridging divisions and strengthening our communities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that it hereby proclaims November 14-20, 2021 as United Against Hate Week in the City of Berkeley.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS FOR NOT IN OUR TOWN'S UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK

WHEREAS, Mayor Jesse Arreguin has surplus funds in his office expenditure account; and

WHEREAS, a California non-profit tax exempt corporation Not in Our Town seeks funds to provide the following public services: Promotion and distribution of information relating to 2021's United Against Hate Week on November 14-20.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by the Mayor and Councilmembers from their Council Office Budget up to \$250 per office shall be granted to Not in Our Town.