RESOLUTION NO. 2017-10

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE SAFETY OF ALL PEOPLE RESIDING IN BELLINGHAM

WHEREAS, Many citizens have expressed their concerns about their rights and safety since the presidential election;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That we will not turn our backs on immigrants, regardless of documentation status. We will continue to uphold the police department policies of not inquiring about a person's citizenship status within the City of Bellingham. Our police department will continue the policy of not detaining individuals for a civil violation of federal immigration laws or a related civil warrant. Our police department will continue to not conduct raids or sweeps to detain or arrest individuals on federal immigration matters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we will continue to advocate for gender equality, support efforts to achieve reproductive justice, address workplace discrimination, work to end violence against women, and encourage equal political participation and representation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we will continue to stand with and protect the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals in our city; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Black Lives Matter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That and we will continue to work with our police department to support implicit bias and other appropriate trainings, ensuring that people of color have equal protection under the law. We will listen and respond to the needs and priorities of communities of color. We will continue working to build trust between the police department and communities of color, helping all citizens to feel safe in their neighborhoods; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That human beings contribute to climate change. In this city, science matters. We will continue making efforts to reduce our carbon footprint, support clean power and zero waste, and protect future generations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we will continue to condemn all hate speech and violence, standing in solidarity with individuals and communities who are targeted for their race, religion, or ethnicity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City respects the rights of working people to organize and to collective bargaining; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we will continue to address the issue of poverty in our city by supporting investments in affordable housing and in our community's excellent social service safety net. The City will continue playing an active role in ending homelessness through its policies and practices; and

Bellingham City Council 210 Lottie Street Bellingham, WA 98225 360-778-8200

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City will continue its work on reforming our local criminal justice system, examining and supporting alternatives to incarceration, including mental health and substance abuse programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City recognizes and respects treaty rights for sovereign nations. We value and respect our local tribes and stand with them on land and water rights.

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Office of the City Attorney