

**A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THAT THE CITY OF PEORIA DESIRES TO ADVANCE RACIAL EQUITY IN POLICY, PRACTICES, AND CULTURE, AND SUPPORTS THE EFFORTS OF ITS CITIZENS AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT ADVOCATE FOR INCLUSION, COMPASSION AND UNDERSTANDING.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Peoria is a diverse community with many ethnicities and cultural traditions; and

**WHEREAS**, Peoria's historic journey is filled with inspiring stories of people overcoming adversity; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has held two community conversation on race and economic opportunity with the goal to advance racial equity in policy, practices and culture across neighborhoods and institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, racial equity means closing the gaps so that a person's race does not predict his or her success, while improving outcomes for all; and

**WHEREAS**, the intent of these conversations is to establish a shared framework for discussing racism and racial equity and to support action at the individual and institutional level; and

**WHEREAS**, through continued dialogue and the development of practical approaches and solutions, the City, regional institutions and individuals can build social cohesion across race and ethnicities; and

**WHEREAS**, the conversations have led to working groups examining deliberate systems and supports to achieve racial equity in the areas of asset development, economic development, education, health, infrastructure, justice and workforce development; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Peoria also recognizes that efforts to enhance the city's relationship with law enforcement are critical to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Peoria, and its Police Department, are committed to the Department of Justice's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing efforts and to the concepts of community policing that build relationships between the community and the Police Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Peoria have played an integral role in this process of inclusion, compassion and understanding of other ethnicities, traditions and organizations including the NAACP, Black Lives Matter, Tri-County Urban League, Peoria Proud, Prairie State Legal Services, the Society of St. Vincent DePaul and the Inter-Faith Alliance of Central Illinois.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Peoria affirms its desire to advance racial equity in policy, practices, and culture across neighborhoods and institutions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Peoria supports sustained economic and cultural empowerment programs, diversity education efforts and corporate commitments towards hiring; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council supports efforts to enhance the relationship of its citizens with law enforcement with the establishment of the Advisory Committee on Police Community Relations, in which residents have the opportunity to discuss community concerns with the City's Police department; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that without reservation this Mayor and City Council support any movement that enhances resident's trust in law enforcement as protectors and servants of the community; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Peoria supports the efforts of its citizens and organizations who advocate for inclusion, compassion and understanding of other ethnicities including the NAACP, Black Lives Matter, Tri-County Urban League, Peoria Proud, Prairie State Legal Services, the Society of St. Vincent DePaul and the Inter-Faith Alliance of Central Illinois.