## Resolution No. 20-146

A resolution affirming the City of Arlington's commitment to equity for its residents of all racial, ethnic and national origins in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and acknowledging the devastating impact on seniors and members of the African-American and Hispanic communities

- WHEREAS, the COVID-19 global pandemic has significantly impacted the health, social and economic fabric of the community within the City of Arlington; and
- WHEREAS, the disproportionate impact of the novel Coronavirus has been on those over age 65 and the African-American and Hispanic communities; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Arlington is committed to equity, fairness, justice, and protecting its most vulnerable residents; and
- WHEREAS, the City's commitment to equity in the community is demonstrated by the City's COVID-19 testing approach, communication strategies and housing assistance programs related to the pandemic and the health and economic damages it has caused; NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARLINGTON, TEXAS:

That the City of Arlington is committed to equity for its residents of all racial, ethnic and national origins in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and acknowledges the pandemic's devastating impact on those over age 65 and members of the African-American and Hispanic communities.

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That the City of Arlington is committed to centering our community's responses to the COVID-19 global pandemic in racial equity and will dedicate resources, platforms, political will and authority to identifying and addressing the ways that the novel Coronavirus may exacerbate existing inequities in our community.

III.

Further, the City of Arlington is committed to not using fear, a common tactic throughout history to scapegoat communities perceived to be "other", and setting a tone

that will reject these tendencies. The City of Arlington will lift up the medical and social needs of the most marginalized and demonstrate how centering their needs ensures the safety and health of all.

## IV.

This resolution confirms the City Council's commitment to local actions that promote equity and reflecting these values in all local government institutions.

PRESENTED AND PASSED on this the <u>9th</u> day of <u>June</u>, 2020, by a vote of <u>9</u> ayes and <u>0</u> nays at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Arlington, Texas.

W. JEFF WILLIAMS, Mayor

ALEX BUSKEN, City Secretary

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM: TERIS SOLIS, City Attorney

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A resolution affirming the City of Arlington's commitment to equity for its residents of all racial, ethnic and national origins

- WHEREAS, Arlington is a city with a population of just under 400,000, including 22.5% African-American residents, 29.2% Hispanic residents and 6.9% Asian residents; and
- WHEREAS, nationally, numerous data sources demonstrate a lack of equity among people of different races, ethnicities and national origins; and
- WHEREAS, equity is an important factor in individual, family, neighborhood and community success over a number of metrics economic, education, housing, health, and access to public facilities and essential services; and
- WHEREAS, the adopted vision of the City of Arlington is to be a pre-eminent city, providing an exemplary, safe environment in which to live, learn, work and play for all Arlington residents, regardless of race, ethnicity or national origins; and
- WHEREAS, the City's adopted values also include respect, diversity and kindness and diversity is the first of the six pillars that form the foundation of the City's American Dream City brand; NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARLINGTON, TEXAS: I.

That the City of Arlington is committed to equity for its residents of all racial, ethnic and national origins.

II.

Further, this resolution affirms the City of Arlington's commitment to advancing racial equality and additional dialogue and action in this area.

PRESENTED AND PASSED on this the <u>9th</u> day of <u>June</u>, 2020, by a vote of <u>9</u> ayes and <u>0</u> nays at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Arlington, Texas.

ATTEST:

ALEX BUSKEN, City Secretary

W. JEFF WILLIAMS, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM: TERIS SOLIS, City Attorney

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