CITY OF KENNEWICK
RESOLUTION NO. 16-11

A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE CITY OF KENNEWICK'S COMMITMENT TO PROMOTING AND EMBRACING DIVERSITY AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIVERSITY COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the City of Kennewick is currently undertaking a ten (10) year update to the 20 year Comprehensive Plan that identifies how we grow as a community and are seeking input from the diverse population of the community to strengthen our planning process; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kennewick recognizes that our City is comprised of individuals with unique and varied backgrounds and is proud of the richness and value that diversity brings to our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kennewick seeks to prevent and prohibit all discriminatory practices based on race, ethnicity, nationality, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, disability, age, veteran status or religious beliefs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kennewick is honored to serve the entire community and takes great pride in delivering and providing equal access to hundreds of services every day; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kennewick is committed to embracing diversity and promoting equality among our work force, residents, businesses, and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kennewick's commitment to diversity is demonstrated through our core value of inclusiveness; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kennewick will actively seek participation and perspectives from all citizens to ensure that the different needs of our diverse population are considered in the decision-making processes; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council affirms the City's commitment to promote and embrace diversity in our community.

Section 2. The City Council approves the establishment of a Mayor's Commission on Diversity to engage participation and provide an effective means for promoting diversity and commitment to equality and inclusiveness as we work together to make the City of Kennewick the place of choice to live, work, play and do business, pursuant to the following guidelines:

1. Members of the Mayor's Commission on Diversity will be recommended by the City's interview committee and selected by the City Council.
2. The Commission will consist of seven (7) members.

3. The Commission will select a chairperson by majority vote at the first meeting.
4. The term of the Commission will be for one (1) year commencing on the first meeting of the Commission.
5. The Commission will meet monthly.
6. The Commission will provide periodic updates to City Council.
7. All Commission meetings will be open to the public.
8. The Commission will be an advisory body that will provide a final report to City Council summarizing recommendations based on established goals at the end of the one-year term.

Section 3. The primary goals of the Diversity Commission are as follows:

1. Identify the cultural behaviors that will be embraced in our community.
2. Engage with residents and businesses at the neighborhood level.
3. Identify whether the City has gaps in services based on the identified cultural behaviors and provide possible solutions.
4. Determine where the City needs to improve communication and/or enhance services based on input received.
5. Identify ways that the City can be more inclusive in engagement with our citizens and businesses that will better promote the identified cultural behaviors.
6. Determine ways to encourage more citizens to be involved in the community and consider running for a City Council position, participate on one of the many City boards and commissions, or apply for City employment.
7. Present recommendations to Council on how to best engage citizens so that there is adequate input regarding policy matters involving diversity and embracing the identified cultural behaviors.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON, this 19th day of April, 2016, and signed in authentication of its passage this 19th day of April, 2016.

~~STEVE C. YOUNG~~, Mayor Pro Tem
DON BRITAIN

Attest:

TERRI L. WRIGHT, City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 16-11 filed and recorded in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Kennewick, Washington, this 20th day of April, 2016.

Approved as to Form:

LISA BEATON, City Attorney

TERRI L. WRIGHT, City Clerk