

From: [Aspell, Thomas](#)
To: [Bonenfant, Janice](#)
Subject: FW: Motion & statement condemning racism and police brutality
Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 11:21:13 AM

From: Hawkins,Zandra-Rice
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 6:56 PM
To: Brent Todd; Byron O. Champlin ; Candace CW Bouchard - City Councilor (cwbouchard@aol.com); Councilor Erle Pierce; Fennessy,Nathan; Hatfield,Meredith; Kretovic, Jennifer; Jim Bouley; Keach, Fred; Kenison, Linda; Matson, Gail; Nyhan, Keith; Werner, Robert; Sexton, Amanda
Cc: Aspell, Thomas
Subject: Motion & statement condemning racism and police brutality

Good evening,

As I wrote in an email last week, I would like for the City Council to make a formal statement condemning racism and police brutality. The death of George Floyd and others came at the hand of the same institutions and departments we oversee, and people need to know that we recognize our responsibility here to ensure that would never happen in our community.

During the comment section tonight I will make a motion for the Council to issue a statement. My original intention was to make a statement and then propose a non-public discussion to work out the language. I have just been informed that this will need to happen in public session, so below is the draft that has been started. I would be happy to edit and pass this version tonight, or to support another motion for us to meet at another date and time to formalize this -- it is important to me that everyone can support this statement in a strong show of unity and in opposition to problems that have faced our nation for far too long.

Zandra

CONCORD CITY COUNCIL STATEMENT CONDEMNING RACISM AND POLICE BRUTALITY

Concord stands together to reject racism and police brutality.

As Mayor and City Councilors, we condemn the senseless deaths of Black Americans at the hands of police officers who violated their oaths to protect and serve, and we stand with people and communities across the country who are demanding a renewed focus on racial equity.

We pledge to use our platform, our voices, and our policies to combat racism and inequality, to listen to the experiences of community members most impacted, and to reflect on our own roles in how to address these challenges as we shape our path forward together.

Every person in our community deserves to be able to count on fair and just treatment, especially within the leadership and institutions of our democracy. Our nation's long and harmful history of systematic racism and institutionalized discrimination requires all of us to work harder to actively address and challenge racism and bias.

Over the coming months Concord plans to convene community discussions and identify action steps to ensure that we are delivering on our commitment to racial justice. Our city is also undertaking a public review of our policing and use of force practices so that community members may feel confident in our approach. The Concord Police Department has a longstanding commitment to community policing, outreach to communities of color, and measured use of force; it makes sense in this moment to engage in a public conversation about those policies and programs and identify any areas for improvement.

Concord strives to be a diverse, inclusive, and welcoming community, and our commitment and examination of how policies impact people of color in our community is important and can only further benefit all the residents of our city.