

MOTION:

**August 4, 2020
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 20-**

SECOND:

RE: CONDEMN WHITE SUPREMACY AND SUPPORT RACIAL RECONCILIATION AND INCLUSION IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

ACTION:

WHEREAS, the preamble of the United States Constitution states “We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity;” and

WHEREAS, at the time these words were written, and in the Constitution later adopted, the full rights of enslaved Africans, their descendants, women, and a large number of other marginalized people in our nation, were not secured, requiring subsequent Amendments; and

WHEREAS, white supremacy pervaded our nation during its founding in the form of slavery, and has endured over the past two centuries in the form of Massive Resistance, Jim Crow laws, provisions of the 1902 Constitution of Virginia, redlining, Confederate idolatry, Mass Incarceration, and the existence of the Klu Klux Klan, the Neo-Nazi movement, and other white supremacist organizations; and

WHEREAS, Prince William County is one of the most diverse communities in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and its population is majority non-white with nearly one of every four residents being an immigrant to the United States; and

WHEREAS, in August of 2017, Neo-Nazis, the Ku Klux Klan, and other white supremacist-affiliated organizations descended upon Charlottesville to intimidate and terrorize black communities, other communities of color, and other marginalized communities; where the violence and chaos resulted in the tragic murder of Heather Heyer; and

WHEREAS, also in August of 2017, Greater Praise Temple Ministries in Dumfries, a predominantly African American church, was defaced with racist messages, racial epithets, and a swastika with the intent of intimidating and sowing fear among community members; and

WHEREAS, in October of 2017, signage on the properties of Early Years Academy in Prince William County was vandalized with a swastika and other hate vandalism across the campus with the intent to intimidate students, staff, and the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, in March of 2020, bathrooms in Forest Park High School and Unity Braxton (then Stonewall) Middle School were defaced with swastika graffiti, with the intent of intimidating black and Jewish members of those school communities; and

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WHEREAS, in July of 2020, Ku Klux Klan recruitment stickers were distributed in various locations throughout Lake Ridge;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William Board of County Supervisors hereby condemns all white supremacist organizations, including the Ku Klux Klan, Neo-Nazis, and all other forms of white supremacy, and the systems that perpetuate it;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince William Board of County Supervisors hereby supports and stands by the side of law enforcement officers at the local, state, and federal level in their efforts to dismantle any vestiges of white supremacy, wherever they may exist, to reflect the diversity of the communities they serve truly;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince William Board of County Supervisors hereby commits to eradicate white supremacy from our community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince William Board of County Supervisors hereby calls upon all residents of Prince William County to promote a culture of racial reconciliation equity and inclusion throughout our community.

Votes:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent from Vote:

Absent from Meeting:

ATTEST: _____
Clerk to the Board