RESOLUTION C-2020-13

INTRODUCING: Moore-Morley & Trockman

SPECIAL RESOLUTION DECLARING
RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS
IN EVANSVILLE

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Evansville, Indiana, recognizes that racism is a public health crisis and the matter necessitates urgent public health concern;

WHEREAS, Black residents of the City of Evansville, Indiana, tested positive for COVID-19 at a rate nearly double that of White residents, that Black residents are 12.9% of the City of Evansville’s population but account for 23.3% of COVID-19-positive cases to date; and

WHEREAS, racism operates on systemic, institutional, and interpersonal levels, all of which operate throughout time and across generations; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Evansville, Indiana, deems it necessary and proper to recognize this critical community concern, in light of recent events.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of Evansville, Indiana ("City Council"), that it declares racism to be a public health crisis in Evansville that affects all members of our community and demands our attention and deserves action from all levels of government and ranks of civil society; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this City Council dedicates itself to honest and open debate, discussion, and analysis of race and the effect our decisions impress upon racial inequity in our community, that these vital communications will be incorporated into our collective daily work, and that we will address issues of race and racial disparities and inequities in a full and frank manner; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this City Council, all City departments, and all City residents are encouraged to intentionally close racial disparities and work to foster a more equitable community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this City Council and all City departments will address racial inequalities by investing in disadvantaged neighborhoods and those neighborhoods whose residents suffer most from racial disparities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge all city elected officials and departments to continue, with sincere haste, the review of policies and procedures for the express purposes of eradicating implicit and explicit racial bias and enact policies and procedures that develop racial equity in their place; and

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City Clerk
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that City departments should immediately utilize all available tools and methods to eliminate disparities based on race, place, or identity across key metrics and indicators of success, including health, employment, criminal justice, the environment, education and the economy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that City departments shall develop a plan to collect data regarding racial disparities in department staffing, procurement, contracting, and recipients of government intervention, with the purpose of incorporating racial equity into the analysis of governmental action and emboldening the city’s commitment to analyze and address racial disparities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is invited to join in this resolution by affixing his signature hereto.
Passed and adopted by the Common Council of the City of Evansville, Indiana, on the _____ day of _____________, 2020, and signed as of said day by the President of the Common Council and attested by the City Clerk.

_________________________________
Alex Burton, President
Common Council of Evansville, Indiana

_________________________________
Lloyd Winnecke, Mayor

I attest to the passage and adoption of the foregoing by the Common Council of the City of Evansville, Indiana, on the above date and that the same, having been presented to me, was delivered to the Mayor of said City, the _____ day of _____________, 2020, at _____ o’clock __.m.

_________________________________
Laura Windhorst, City Clerk
City of Evansville, Indiana