



## **City of Milpitas**

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### **The City of Milpitas Adopts Resolution Denouncing Racism and Xenophobia in Response to COVID-19**

Milpitas, CA – May 11, 2020 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On May 5, 2020, the City Council of Milpitas adopted a resolution denouncing stigmatization, hateful racism, and xenophobia due to COVID-19. Residents in Milpitas and throughout the Bay Area have been impacted by racist attitudes and stigma related to the Novel Coronavirus. Because the virus was first identified in China, some people have taken to using phrases like “Chinese virus” or “Wuhan virus” which do not accurately describe the virus and instead only serve to cause division and harm.

Multiple residents of the Bay Area have stories detailing the harassment and even physical attacks they have faced. These residents make up educators, healthcare workers, essential workers, and fill other essential jobs that enrich our community.

The resolution denouncing racism was presented by Councilmember Karina Dominguez, and was co-sponsored by Councilmember Carmen Montano. “There is zero tolerance for discrimination for any reason in Milpitas,” said Councilmember Dominguez. “Everyone deserves to be treated with respect. Now, we must come together as a community to ensure our neighbors are safe and feel valued. We are a better community because of our diversity, and we must make sure that no one faces hostility because of this.”

Councilmember Montano agreed, “Now is not the time to react with fear or hate. We need to look out for our neighbors by wearing our masks, social distancing, and reporting any abuse or hate crime you witness. We’re all in this together.”

The resolution was passed and adopted unanimously.

The City of Milpitas encourages residents to call 911 to report a crime if you are a victim of assault such as someone deliberately coughing, sneezing, or threatening you, or if you witness this happening to anyone.

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**About the City of Milpitas**

Located at the southern end of San Francisco Bay, Milpitas is a progressive community that is an integral part of Silicon Valley. A full-service city with water utility, sewer utility, police and fire services, Milpitas celebrates a diverse population of nearly 80,000. Under a Council-Manager form of government, the City Council has established the following seven priority areas of service and policy: public safety, environment, transportation and transit, economic development and job growth, neighborhoods and housing, community wellness and open space, and governance and administration.

More information at: <http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/>

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