

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-XXX

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA MESA URGING THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR TO SUPPORT STOP AAPI HATE'S NO PLACE FOR HATE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE TO ADDRESS STREET HARASSMENT FROM A PUBLIC HEALTH AND CIVIL RIGHTS FRAMEWORK, INCLUDING CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 2549, INTRODUCED BY ASSEMBLY MEMBERS MIA BONTA, AL MURATSUCHI, AND AKILAH WEBER TO PREVENT STREET HARASSMENT, AND ITS CORRESPONDING BUDGET REQUEST; CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE BILL NO. 1161, INTRODUCED BY SENATOR DAVE MIN TO PREVENT STREET HARASSMENT ON PUBLIC TRANSIT, AND ITS CORRESPONDING BUDGET REQUEST; AND CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 2448, INTRODUCED BY ASSEMBLY MEMBER PHIL TING TO PREVENT HARASSMENT IN PRIVATE BUSINESSES

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WHEREAS, Street harassment is unwanted words, gestures, or actions that are forced on a stranger in a public place because of their real or perceived identity, which can include racialized or sexualized slurs;

WHEREAS, Existing California laws are ill-equipped to prevent and address street harassment because most laws are under the penal code, despite street harassment necessitating a public health and civil rights response, and require a known person committing the act, despite most street harassment being transitory and taking place between strangers;

WHEREAS, Women, the LGBTQ & TGI communities, people of color, people with disabilities, the young and the elderly, and all people deserve to feel safe and move about freely without becoming targets of hate and harassment;

WHEREAS, Nearly 11,000 Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) across the country reported hate incidents to Stop AAPI Hate between March 2020 and December 2021, including more than 4,100 reports in California; and

WHEREAS, 63% of hate incidents reported to Stop AAPI Hate described verbal harassment and three-quarters (75.7%) of hate incidents occurred in places open to the public, such as public streets, public transit, and businesses open to the public;

WHEREAS, 23.1% of non-binary AAPI people and 19.1% of AAPI women that reported hate incidents to Stop AAPI Hate identified gender as one of the reasons they experienced the reported discrimination;

WHEREAS, Street harassment is not just an AAPI issue, and all women – particularly Black women, Indigenous women, and women of color – LGBTQ & TGI people, people with disabilities, unhoused people, the young and the elderly, and people of color experience street harassment, which carries the threat of and occasionally escalates into violence;

WHEREAS, According to a 2019 statewide study by the University of California San Diego Center on Gender Equity and Health, 77 percent of women experience sexual harassment in a public space, including 29 percent on mass transit;

WHEAREAS, Many transit districts have not investigated the role of street harassment on their systems and how street harassment prevents equal access to transportation; and

WHEAREAS, As transit districts look to increase ridership, efforts to protect rider safety, including the prevention of street harassment on transit, can be a critical tool in rebuilding rider trust and patronage.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the La Mesa City Council supports Stop AAPI Hate's No Place for Hate California campaign in urging the Legislature and Governor to support California State Assembly Bill No. 2549 (Bonta, Muratsuchi, Weber) and its corresponding budget request, California State Senate Bill No. 1161 (Min) and its corresponding budget request, and California State Assembly Bill No. 2448 (Ting).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council hereby directs the City Clerk to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Governor, California State Senator and Assembly Members who authored these bills.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of La Mesa, California, held the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

#### CERTIFICATE OF THE CITY CLERK

I, MEGAN WIEGELMAN, City Clerk of the City of La Mesa, California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of Resolution No. 2022-XXX, duly passed and adopted by the City Council of said City on the date and by the vote therein recited.

Megan Wiegelman, City Clerk

(Seal of the City)