

Whereas, George Floyd, a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota, who was the father of a six-year-old girl, worked at a Salvation Army store and Latin Bistro, and who was referred to by friends as a gentle giant; and

Whereas, on May 25, 2020, George Floyd, an unarmed black man, was murdered by a police officer while other officers did nothing to assist him while he pleaded for help, saying that he couldn't breathe; and

Whereas, in the wake of his death, we have watched as our nation has cried out for justice, and we have watched the pain caused by the long history of systemic racism in our nation rise up; and

Whereas, residents of the City of Racine join the nation in mourning the senseless and tragic loss of life, and recognize racism can only be addressed if we all take a serious look at how we contribute to the problem and commit to becoming part of the solution; and

Whereas, as the elected leaders of the City of Racine, we see and hear Racine's African American community members, like so many across the country, who are saying they are tired, tired of this violence against black bodies, tired of the lack of accountability, and tired of the continued uphill fight for justice and for basic rights and safety; and

Whereas, we see the anguish, pain, and trauma that racism has inflicted on communities of color, their families, their neighborhoods, and our entire City; and

Whereas, we recognize that racism is real, implicit bias is real, the community has every reason to cry out for justice and accountability; and

Whereas, as the elected leaders of the City of Racine, we recognize our responsibility to work to end racism in all of its forms, and our unique responsibility for creating policies that promote equity and address injustices systemically; and

Now therefore, as a City we stand in solidarity with those who believe that we can work together to demand justice and change; and

Now, be it further resolved, that the City of Racine, the Mayor, and members of the Common Council commit to working with members of the community to address, fight, and root out all racism in our City.