

A RESOLUTION ON REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AND WELCOMING

- WHEREAS,** Beaverton has a long history of welcoming newcomers and actively fostering an inclusive environment for all people regardless of race, ethnicity, place of origin or religion; and
- WHEREAS,** Beaverton officially declared itself a Welcoming City for immigrants and refugees in April 2015, joining other local jurisdictions across the country in leading a national welcoming movement; and
- WHEREAS,** global conflicts and war have fueled the largest refugee crisis since World War II and according to the United Nations Refugee Agency, more than 65.6 million people have been displaced worldwide, with 22.5 million living as refugees; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States has in the past stood as a refugee protection leader, and since 1975 Oregon has welcomed over 67,000 refugees; and
- WHEREAS,** Executive Order 13888 "On Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Resettlement" requires state and local jurisdictions to formally consent to refugee resettlement; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Beaverton is committed to combating xenophobia, racism and discrimination against refugees; and
- WHEREAS,** resettled refugees contribute to the economic growth and cultural richness of the communities where they settle; and
- WHEREAS,** we believe that opening our doors to those who are fleeing violence does not endanger our safety, but rather shows our compassion and hope; and
- WHEREAS,** Beaverton strives to be a place where individuals and families from all backgrounds feel safe, are treated with respect and dignity, and are recognized for their contributions to building a strong and vibrant community.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEAVERTON, OREGON:

That the City of Beaverton affirms our support for the resettlement of refugees and pledges to continue to work with leaders across all sectors to identify ways to support the integration of newcomers to the Beaverton area. The City encourages other Washington County communities to join in voicing their support for a stronger national effort to resettle the most vulnerable refugees.

Adopted by Council this 4th day of February, 2020.

Approved by the Mayor this 5th day of February, 2020.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

ATTEST:


CATHERINE JANSEN, CITY RECORDER


DENNY DOYLE, MAYOR