

RESOLUTION 2019-100
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
REGARDING IMMIGRATION CONDITIONS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER OF THE
UNITED STATES AND ITS IMPACT ON THE FORT COLLINS COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, Fort Collins welcomes and celebrates immigrants and their role in our City's history and in the greater fabric and history of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 and the first part of 2019, thousands of people, including families with children, asked for asylum at the United States' border with Mexico; and

WHEREAS, recent events at the border between the United States and Mexico highlight potential humanitarian issues – particularly concerning children being separated from their families and the conditions in which they are being held in separation; and

WHEREAS, the national focus on this topic is not inseparable from Fort Collins immigrant communities, and reports on this situation have caused fear among communities living in Fort Collins; and

WHEREAS, this fear manifests itself in a variety of ways, but of importance to the City is a fear of engaging with government authorities; and

WHEREAS, the City is concerned that this fear of the government could discourage people from engaging with public safety agencies, and could prevent the Decennial Census from obtaining an accurate count of people living in Fort Collins, putting at risk accurate representation in Congress and in the Colorado General Assembly, as well as federal funding; and

WHEREAS, understanding this fear and its impact on the community, the City Council wants to reiterate that this City is committed to building trust among all our residents, particularly our immigrant communities, and that we believe their contributions and presence in this community make for a stronger City and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that our community alone cannot solve the national issues which are inherently causing many of these challenges at a local level.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS as follows:

Section 1. That the City Council wishes to foster a Fort Collins community that is welcoming to those lawfully seeking asylum in the United States and wants residents to feel secure in their homes.

Section 2. That the City Council encourages all local residents to report crimes and come forward as victims and witnesses of crimes, and to participate in the Decennial Census, regardless of their race, ethnicity, national origin or immigration status.

Section 3. That the City Council calls upon President Trump and his administration, as well as the United States Congress, to act immediately to prevent inhumane treatment of persons, especially minors, at the southern border, and implores the administration to quickly reunify immigrant families through whatever means reasonably possible.

Section 4. That the City Council urges the President and Congress, particularly the leadership of the House and Senate, to create a sustainable pathway for immigration into the United States, especially for those who fear for their lives or their safety.

Section 5. That the City Council directs the City Manager to include measures consistent with this Resolution in the City's Legislative Policy Agenda to be presented to the Legislative Review Committee for consideration before the end of 2019.

Section 6. That it is the intent of the City Council that those members of Council participating in upcoming meetings with members of the Colorado Congressional delegation urge those members of Congress to take action as described herein.

Passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Fort Collins this 1st day of October, A.D. 2019.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

