



Resolution No. 2020R-193

City of Minneapolis

File No. 2020-00717

Author: Jenkins

Committee: POGO

Public Hearing: None

Passage: Jul 17, 2020

Publication: JUL 25 2020

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE				
COUNCIL MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Bender	X			
Jenkins	X			
Johnson	X			
Gordon	X			
Reich	X			
Fletcher	X			
Cunningham	X			
Ellison	X			
Goodman	X			
Cano	X			
Schroeder	X			
Palmisano	X			

MAYOR ACTION

APPROVED

VETOED

[Handwritten Signature]

MAYOR

JUL 20 2020

DATE

Certified an official action of the City Council

ATTEST

[Handwritten Signature]

CITY CLERK

Presented to Mayor: JUL 17 2020

Received from Mayor: JUL 20 2020

Declaring racism a public health emergency in the City of Minneapolis.

Whereas, the vision of the City of Minneapolis states that Minneapolis is "an intentionally compassionate city where each of us can reach our full potential while care for one another, eliminating racial disparities, improving our environment and promoting social well-being" and that the City "lead[s] in innovative and creative ways, focused not only on our present needs but also the success of future generations;" and

Whereas, the mission of the City of Minneapolis states "Our City government takes strategic action to address climate change, dismantle institutional injustice and close disparities in health, housing, public safety and economic opportunities" and City leaders, in partnership with residents help "to ensure all communities thrive in a safe and healthy city;" and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis recognizes the City is built upon Dakota homelands, and that Indigenous nations have lived upon this land since time immemorial, and the land itself carries historical trauma, and that genocidal policies have aimed to strip tribal nations not only of land, but of culture, language and family systems; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis recognizes that Africans were forcibly brought to this country, enslaved, and after the Emancipation of Slavery, citizens of this country perpetuated Anti-Black racism through violence, mass incarceration and Anti-Black policies, including redlining, and that the social construction of race was used to justify their enslavement as well as the removal of Indigenous peoples off their land pushing them onto land deemed less desirable; and

Whereas, racism has various forms including historical, individual, systemic and that has not only continued to present day, but has been institutionalized to ensure the concentration of material, power and resources into the hands of white bodied individuals; and

Whereas, white supremacy is a political, economic and cultural system in which whites overwhelmingly control power and material resources, conscious and unconscious ideas of white superiority and entitlement across a broad array of institutions and social settings; and

Whereas, racism in all its forms causes persistent discrimination and disparate outcomes in many areas of life, including housing, education, health, employment, public safety and criminal justice; exacerbated further by the COVID-19 pandemic crisis; and

Whereas, a multitude of studies connect racism to inequitable health outcomes for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), including cancer, coronary heart disease, diabetes, hypertension, high infant and maternal mortality rates demonstrating that racism is the root cause of social determinants of health; and

Whereas, leading medical and public health organizations including, but not limited to, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Public Health Association recognize that systemic racism is a social determinant of health that has profound, negative impacts on the health status of children, youth, adults, and families and that failure to address racism as an urgent public health issue will exacerbate and perpetuate existing health inequities affecting BIPOC communities, and these organizations have made commitments to work actively to dismantle racism in health care policies and practices; and

Whereas, research has shown that police killings of unarmed Black Americans have adverse effects on mental health among Black American adults overall, and that programs are needed to decrease the frequency of police killings and to mitigate adverse mental health effects within communities when and where such killings occur; and

Whereas, [structural](#) racism has increased health and economic inequities for BIPOC communities, exacerbated further by the COVID-19 pandemic crisis; and

Whereas, BIPOC community members in Minnesota experience the trauma of police violence and the vicarious trauma of reliving violent incidents via social media; and