

DRAFT 8/25/2021 JAN

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
SUNNYVALE IN SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE IN
AFGHANISTAN**

WHEREAS, in February 2020, the Afghan Taliban signed a peace agreement with the United States (“US”) ahead of a proposed withdrawal of US troops, and in April 2021, President Biden announced that US military forces would leave Afghanistan by September 11, 2021 after a 20-year conflict with the Taliban; and

WHEREAS, the Taliban ramped up attacks on Afghan National Defense and Security Forces bases and outposts, and on August 15, 2021, Taliban fighters entered the capital, leading Afghan President Ashraf Ghani to flee the country and the Afghan government to collapse; and

WHEREAS, the Taliban has a history of being a repressive regime with gross human rights violations based on their strict interpretation of Islamic law, including the public executions of convicted murderers and adulterers, amputations for those found guilty of theft; and

WHEREAS, the Taliban is accused of violating the social and economic rights of women and girls by prohibiting girls from obtaining an education, preventing women from working, restricting women’s every movement, and condoning violent punishments for any perceived transgressions against their interpretation of Islamic law; and

WHEREAS, the Taliban is also accused of various cultural abuses and attacks on civic institutions, including attacks on hospitals, schools, and cultural landmarks like the destruction of the famous Bamiyan Buddha statues in central Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, the Taliban takeover of the country could once again turn Afghanistan into a terrorist safe haven putting in danger women, children, journalists, media workers, civil rights activists, and Afghans who worked with the US; and

WHEREAS, the takeover threatens to reverse advances made in securing the rights of women and girls; and

WHEREAS, the Bay Area has a large Afghan-American community that is deeply concerned for their loved ones in Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, we have seen images of an influx of desperate people at the Kabul airport trying to flee Afghanistan out of fear for their safety; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sunnyvale believes that civil servants must serve the needs of all community members with respect, professionalism, dignity, and fair and equitable treatment, regardless of race, religion, ancestry, ethnicity, ability, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity and we must serve all members of the public with courtesy, impartiality, fairness and equality; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sunnyvale wishes to state its support for the well-being, safety and civil rights of people in Afghanistan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE THAT the City of Sunnyvale states its support of civil rights and peace for Afghan people and the humanitarian efforts being organized around the world to support Afghan refugees fleeing the Taliban regime, and calls on all leaders to join us in condemning human rights abuses and violence against women, girls, journalists, media workers, civil rights activists, and Afghans who worked with the US in Afghanistan.

Adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on _____, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:
RECUSAL:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Clerk
(SEAL)

Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney