

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
NO. 6-20-182

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND CONDEMN
THE POLICE ACTIONS IN MINNEAPOLIS THAT LED TO THE DEATH OF MR. GEORGE FLOYD

RESOLUTION: Council as a Whole

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park, a community of ethnic, economic, and educational diversity sits at the heart of Middlesex County and at the crossroads of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Borough takes great pride in its diversity and maintains an atmosphere of honor, respect and opportunity for every resident and visitor regardless of age, race, creed, religion, origin, sexual orientation, or gender identification; and

WHEREAS, the Borough makes great effort to ensure that its elected leadership, department heads and appointed boards and committees reflect the fabric of the community at large, thus ensuring that the many voices that make up the one Highland Park are represented; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police has pursued the concept and development of a voluntary statewide law enforcement accreditation program to acknowledge Law Enforcement Departments that have implemented and maintain rigorous policies and procedures that have been deemed sound and operationally effective; and

WHEREAS, as an Accredited Agency, as well as a visible department with respect to the public, sworn members of the Highland Park Police Department receive continuous training throughout their career which includes de-escalation, diversity and interpersonal skills; and

WHEREAS, the Highland Park Police Department is also committed to recruiting and developing a workforce that represents the diversity of the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, recent demonstrations and protests across America, sparked by the video of the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd at the hands of four Minneapolis, Minnesota police officers, challenge public safety organizations and elected leadership across the country to respond as concerns are raised by residents within the communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Highland Park Mayor, Borough Council, and the Highland Park Police Department, in no uncertain terms, condemn the actions that led to the death of Mr. George Floyd; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Borough Council, and the Highland Park Police Department will remain committed to the morally, ethically, and lawfully fair treatment of Borough residents, employees, and visitors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Borough Council, and the Highland Park Police Department will review police use of force policies; will engage the community by including a diverse range of input, experiences, and stories in the review; report the findings of the review to the community and seek feedback; and follow the Attorney General's guidelines regarding police use of force policies plus share our community's input, suggestions, and recommendations with the AG's office.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Mayor, Borough Council and the Highland Park Police Department will continue to take the necessary steps, to maintain policies and procedures to ensure that residents, employees and visitors have adequate channels of communication and processes to bring all matters that call into question the fair, impartial and just treatment of anyone without fear of retribution or reprisal.

ADOPTED: June 9, 2020

ATTEST:


Joan Hullings, BOROUGH CLERK

I, Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of said Borough on the 9th day of June, 2020.

Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Fine	✓			
Foster-Dublin	✓			
George	✓			
Hale	✓			
Kim-Chohan	✓			
Welkovits				✓

C. Pollock