



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

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**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**      **DATE: AUGUST 26, 2014**

**FROM: COUNCILMEMBER MELENDREZ**      **WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT ROLE FOR LOCAL HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS**

**ISSUE:**

The issue for the City Council consideration is discussion of a local supportive role in humanitarian efforts.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Governmental Affairs Committee recommend that the City Council adopt a resolution in support of humanitarian efforts for treatment of all individuals including recent immigrants to the United States.

**BACKGROUND:**

On September 18, 2001, the City Council adopted a "Building a More Inclusive Riverside Community" statement consisting of a set of principles based upon the premises that (1) Riversiders should be and see themselves as respected, contributing members of the community; and (2) that all Riversiders should be bound by a common set of principles based on fairness of treatment, recognition of rights, acceptance of responsibilities, commitment to equality, and dedication to expanding opportunities for all.

In support of the City of Riverside's long standing culture of embracing diversity, a resolution has been drafted in support of humanitarian efforts or assistance in the processing and treatment of all immigrants, including those recently arriving into the United States. The Federal Government has an obligation to process these individuals, many of whom are children, and it is in the best interests of all concerned that the ability of the Federal Government to fulfill its responsibilities not be hampered in any way.

Although the City does not have the resources nor is it appropriate to accept any responsibility to provide temporary housing, the resolution supports decisions of local faith or other community organizations to participate in providing temporary housing or other humanitarian gestures. President Obama is working with Congress to increase the efficiency of the processing period. The attached resolution stands in support of efforts for fair and humane treatment for all.

The Governmental Affairs Committee on August 6, 2014, with Chair Melendrez and Vice-Chair Gardner present and Member Adams absent, unanimously recommended adoption of the

resolution to the City Council.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with adoption of the proposed resolution of support for humanitarian treatment of all individuals.

Prepared by:



ANDY MELENDREZ  
Councilmember, Ward 2  
Governmental Affairs Committee, Chair

Approved as to form: Cristina Talley, Interim City Attorney

Attachment: Building a More Inclusive Riverside Community Pamphlet  
Draft Resolution

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