

GARDEN GROVE CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDEN GROVE IN SUPPORT
OF AFGHAN REFUGEES AND THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN

DESCRIPTION:

The recent United States pullout and subsequent government overthrow in Afghanistan has created a humanitarian crisis with rapidly deteriorating human rights and reductions in personal safety, particularly for many vulnerable individuals. The City of Garden Grove in its effort to support people from all walks of life, is one of the most diverse cities in the United States. According to the 2020 Census, we are home to 171,949 people, many of whom are immigrants, including 37% Latino and 43% Asian. As a city, we support the United States government along with many other governments around the world to support the Afghan people in this time of immense hardship.

WHEREAS, the ongoing war and violence in Afghanistan and the takeover of the Afghan government by the new government has created a humanitarian crisis, with rapidly deteriorating human rights and reductions in safety particularly for vulnerable individuals, including those who have direct ties to the U.S. government and military, members of ethnic minority communities, and individuals who work for or have ties to aid organizations; and

WHEREAS, many Afghan citizens, government employees, interpreters, translators, and Afghan National Defense and Security Forces personnel who supported our service members while they were serving in Afghanistan now find their lives and their family's lives in jeopardy under Taliban rule; and

WHEREAS, refugees and their families face a multitude of challenges when arriving in the United States and transitioning to a new life, including but not limited to; resettlement, language barriers, financial hardship, accessing education, finding work and legal status; and

WHEREAS, federal and state leaders in California, home to a large concentration of Afghans and Afghan Americans in the United States, have a responsibility to honor the commitments of the United States government, assisting in the evacuation of vulnerable groups, providing support to organizations who will serve the refugee community, and showing support for the Afghan community during this difficult time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Garden Grove supports the humanitarian efforts made by the United States government and calls on our residents, community leaders, businesses, faith-based organizations and community-based organizations to support these Afghan families in achieving their pursuit of life, liberty and happiness.