

ATC PUBLIC STATEMENT ON RACIAL INJUSTICE

This week we all have been made painfully aware of the killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, and Ahmaud Arbery. These Black Americans were killed in Minneapolis, in Louisville, in Tallahassee, and in Brunswick, Georgia and represent the many black lives lost across our country. Protests have risen in response and have gained nationwide attention leading to massive unrest and a call to action all over our nation.

At this moment, it is important that the voices of people of all colors join to call out the injustice we see and acknowledge the hurt, anger, and frustration felt in our community. We are proud of our diversity but racism and other forms of bigotry are creating divisions and separations among us leading to the violent taking of lives, in these cases, Black lives. An injustice against one is an injustice against all. Black lives do matter.

We may feel we live in a diverse and caring community, but we need to remember our own history, acknowledge the continued injustices of today within our own neighborhoods, and understand the change that needs to happen NOW, including within ourselves. We must work together to make the playing field truly equal and equitable for all human beings regardless of the color of their skin. Everyone not only deserves the same chance to have an equal opportunity in our society, but to do so without the fear that the color of one's skin or their race can lead to senseless prejudice, hate, racism, and even murder. That's a freedom that many Black Americans and many other people of color have seldom experienced in this country and it needs to change now.

We must take responsibility to work through challenging issues, including the systemic causes of injustice and racism. We urge you to add your voice. We all have the power to use our privilege and influence to put an end to injustices for all people. It's up to all of us - black, white, everyone - no matter how well-meaning we think we might be, to do the honest, uncomfortable work of rooting out racism and bigotry. Violence has no place in any community, nor does silence in the face of injustice.

What can we as individuals do now?

- · Advocate for anti-racist policies at every level of government
- Vote in all elections, local and national. The road to change begins when we all take part
- · Educate ourselves and our community on systemic racism
- · Use our power and privilege to call out prejudice, racism, and hate
- Have faith that the forces of good will prevail
- Speak up even when you think your voice won't be heard

As an organization that serves a diverse community and which believes in and defends democracy, we stand in solidarity with all Black communities. The Altadena Town

Council will continue to speak out against all forms of injustice. Please stand with us and have your voices heard.

Sincerely,

Altadena Town Council Billy Malone, Chair

Councilmembers Patricia Sutherlen, Vice Chair Veronica Jones Jennifer Lee **Dorothy Wong** Antonio Bercerra Okorie Ezieme Victoria Knapp Diane Marcussen Nick Santangelo Gloria Sanyika Jeff Simmonds Dr. Sandra E Thomas Arron Tschida Sylvia Vega Dr. Reginald Wilkins

cc: Congresswoman Judy Chu
State Senator Antony J. Portantino
State Assemblymember Chris Holden
Supervisor Kathryn Barger
Terry Tornek, Mayor, Pasadena
Altadena Town Council Members
Alex Villanueva, Sheriff
Marjory Jacobs, Captain, Altadena Sheriff Station
Tai Vong, Captain, California Highway Patrol Altadena
Todd Deeds, Captain Crescenta Valley Sheriff Station
John Perez, Chief, Pasadena Police Department