

RESOLUTION NO. R-44-17

A RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING THE VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK'S CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO EQUAL, RESPECTFUL AND DIGNIFIED TREATMENT OF ALL PEOPLE, REGARDLESS OF THEIR IMMIGRATION STATUS AND TO REMAINING AN OPEN AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Village of Forest Park ("Village") has long welcomed and embraced individuals and families of diverse racial, ethnic, religious and national backgrounds, recognizing that these persons are valued members of our community and a source of strength and security for our nation; and

WHEREAS, immigration has been the cornerstone of the development of our region, State and nation throughout our history, and the contributions of immigrants and their descendants living in the United States of America have produced immeasurable good for the American people, and have renewed and strengthened the very fabric of our Republic; and

WHEREAS, newly-arrived immigrants bring their professions, their skills, and their enthusiasm to the community, making an immediate positive impact on the economy and the well-being of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Village desires to reaffirm and protect the tradition of welcoming and embracing immigrants who chose to leave their homes for a better life; and

WHEREAS, the Council acknowledges that we are a nation of laws, and that as elected officials we are bound by oath to uphold the Constitutions and laws of our country, our State and our Village; and

WHEREAS, the Village devotes resources to law enforcement for the purpose of assuring the safety of all persons who reside in or visit our community and should be used for local priorities and not for participation in federal immigration enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes and praises the efforts of the Village Police Department to build relationships of trust and respect between the Police Department and the community, and to preserve and enhance these relationships while performing its mission to keep the Village safe and enforce the law; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes and supports the procedures of the Village Police Department to support an individual they discover to be a foreign national in the course of discharging their duties, by providing a document that instructs them to contact their consulate. Additionally, the Council supports the procedures of the Village Police Department to not contact U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) unless they discover a criminal warrant for that individual’s arrest from ICE or except as may be required by law; and

WHEREAS, this trust, respect and cooperation between the community and local law enforcement officers is essential to promoting and maintaining public safety, especially in encouraging residents’ willingness to report crimes, and to request assistance from and provide assistance to the police, making the community safer for all of us; and

WHEREAS, the power to regulate immigration is reserved to the federal government and the enforcement of immigration law is a function of the federal government that currently resides with ICE; and

WHEREAS, in acknowledging and reaffirming our commitment to the rights of all persons, regardless of immigration status, it is important to reassure our residents and visitors that the Village, through its officials, employees, and uniformed services, presently conducts itself according to the principles of equal, respectful and dignified treatment for all persons, and provides assistance and services to those in need without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, citizenship or immigration status, and has always done so.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Village of Forest Park, as follows:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are a material part of this Resolution and are incorporated herein as if they were fully set forth in this Section.

Section 2. The policy of the Village shall be to welcome and treat all persons entering or living in our community with the same respect, fairness, and dignity, and to continue providing municipal services and enforcing the law on an equal basis to all people, regardless of their ethnicity, religion, or nation of origin or descent, or of federal immigration status.

Section 3. As a matter of policy, the Village affirms that it promotes policies and programs to foster inclusion for all, and serves its residents regardless of their immigration or refugee status, race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, sex, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity, political ideology, disability, homelessness, low-income or veteran status, and reaffirms the Village's continuing commitment to advocate and support the wellbeing of all residents.

Section 4. The policy of the Village shall be that all Village employees shall continue to serve all residents and make Village services accessible to all, regardless of religion, ancestry, race, ethnicity, national origin, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, political ideology, physical or mental disability, homelessness, low-income or veteran status, immigration or refugee status.

Section 5. No Village employee, official or department of the Village shall inquire into nor collect information regarding the immigration status of residents or condition the provision of Village benefits, opportunities or services on matters related to citizenship or immigration status, unless required to do so by state or federal law or by a court order.

Section 6. This Resolution shall not create or form the base for any cause of action against or liability on the part of the Village, its elected officials, officers, employees, consultants or agents, in any manner.

Section 7. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois, this 12th day of June, 2017.

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0



Mayor Anthony T. Calderone

ATTEST:



Vanessa Moritz, Village Clerk

R-44-17

VILLAGE COUNCIL
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, ILLINOIS
(Under Commission Form of Government)

MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2017

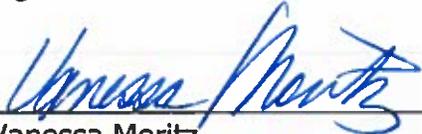
TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS:

I hereby Move that the Resolution reaffirming the Village of Forest Park's continuing commitment to equal, respectful and dignified treatment of all people, regardless of their immigration status and to remaining an open and welcoming community be adopted.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:	MOVED	SECONDED	YEAS	NAYS	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
COMMISSIONER BYRNES	✓		✓			
COMMISSIONER MANNIX	✓		✓			
COMMISSIONER NOVAK	✓		✓			
COMMISSIONER ENTLER	✓		✓			
MAYOR CALDERONE	✓		✓			

I certify that the above is a true and correct record of the action taken by the Mayor and Village Council of the Village of Forest Park on June 12, 2017.

Signed:



Vanessa Moritz
Village Clerk