

Condemning the Violence in Charlottesville

Dimple Ajmera for City Council [DimpleTAjmera@gmail.com@mlsend3.com] on behalf of Dimple Ajmera for City Council [DimpleTAjmera@gmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, September 02, 2017 10:30 AM

To: [Steve Johnston](#)

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Dear Steve,

You know me and my principles. I always have and always will stand up against hatred, violence, and bigotry. In our first City Council meeting since the tragedy in Charlottesville, I proposed a resolution condemning the violence and attacks on our country's principles.

You can see the entire resolution [here on my website](#), but I've attached the final paragraph below:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Charlotte City Council hereby: (i) condemns the violence and abuse of the right to free speech and assembly that occurred in Charlottesville, Virginia; (ii) condemns the abuse of freedom of speech and assembly in furtherance of hate, discrimination, bigotry, and violence, wherever it may occur; and (iii) states unequivocally that those who so abuse these rights are not welcome in Charlotte.

The resolution is about condemning the tragic hate and violence that

occurred in Charlottesville, and how it must never be allowed to happen here in Charlotte. Other cities such as Charleston, SC have passed similar resolutions without issue. We must not be silent when we see bigotry, hatred, intolerance and violence towards others.

We should not, as a council and a city, wait for a more "convenient time" to discuss this. Hate crimes have increased in our community, and the victims and bystanders of these crimes do not find our delays to be convenient. I submitted the resolution to my colleagues the week before, and followed up with a phone call to each member, in order to review and discuss any possible changes. We must be timely and vigilant regarding what may be considered "domestic terrorism". We must not allow Nazis, the KKK, white supremacists and other groups that thrive on hatred and bigotry to silence, bully and threaten any resident of Charlotte! We must build a community in which all residents and visitors are safe, respected and included in our collective prosperity. Hate does not build bridges. Hate does not build communities. Hate will not build the city our residents deserve. I look forward to discussing this vital public safety issue at one of our September City Council meetings.

News Coverage

For more information, please check out WSOC-TV coverage by Joe Bruno:

<http://www.wsoc.tv/news/local/charlotte-city-council-rejects-language-of-resolution-against-charlottesville/600126056>

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"Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world."

– Howard Zinn

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