

# City of Framingham



The City Council of Framingham



## ORDER NO. 2020-094 REQUEST OF THE CITY COUNCIL

UPON THE REQUEST OF THE CITY COUNCIL, THE CITY OF FRAMINGHAM, THROUGH THE FRAMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL, IT IS SO ORDERED:

### **Black Lives Matter Resolution**

*Whereas The City of Framingham asserts that Black Lives Matter and always have;* and

Whereas, the people of Framingham have a proud legacy of using their voices to speak against racism and oppression, dating back to the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society rallies of the early 1800s at Harmony Grove; and

Whereas, at their 1854 rally, Framingham and the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society made headlines when William Lloyd Garrison, founder of abolitionist newspaper, "The Liberator", burned copies of The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 and the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas, this legacy continues today with Black Lives Matter protests and marches in Framingham; and

Whereas, Black Lives Matter is a movement advocating for non-violent civil disobedience in protest against incidents of police brutality and all racially motivated violence and abuse against African-Americans throughout our community in the form of institutional, structural and systemic racism; and are working to create a world in which Black lives are no longer targeted for demise; and also advocate for the entire community of Color, and other oppressed groups; and

Whereas The Framingham City Council denounces racist acts of oppression, including systemic racism, which has targeted Black and Brown communities; and

Whereas The Framingham City Council affirms both our commitment to protect and serve, without discrimination, everyone who resides in, works in, or visits Framingham, and our belief in the dignity, equality and constitutional and civil rights of all people;

Now, Therefore, in accordance with the City of Framingham Joint ORDER NO. EO2020-004, The Council:

1. Commits to the development of equitable policies and practices that work to dismantle systemic racism in the City of Framingham.

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2. Supports the engagement of historically marginalized communities in identifying problems and solutions and supporting community-driven responses.
3. Supports the development of direct service programs and services to address the negative impact that inequalities have had on specific populations, as well as programs that empower communities to tackle these systemic barriers.
4. Will encourage our legislators to advocate at the state and federal level for the policies and funding opportunities that directly combat systemic racism.

Now, Therefore be it resolved that the Framingham City Council declares henceforth that the month of August is Black Lives Matter Month in the City of Framingham, and that all residents shall have a patriotic responsibility to strive to challenge racism, until it is no more.

YEAS: Bryant, Cannon, Case, King, Leombruno, Long, Ottaviani, Shepard, Stefanini, Steiner, Stewart-Morales  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: All members were present in person or via teleconferencing

PASSED IN COUNCIL: SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

A TRUE RECORD, ATTEST:

Lisa A. Ferguson, City Clerk  
Emily L. Butler, Assistant City Clerk

Date Approved