



RESOLUTION 2020-R-03 BLACK LIVES MATTER

A Resolution to affirm the Town's Elected Officials, Staff and Police Department's moral obligation and commitment to protect the civil rights of underrepresented minorities in the Town of Edmonston. This resolution stands against police brutality, racial profiling, and excessive militarized police force. This commitment includes a mandate to promote and afford fair and equal treatment and services to all municipal residents, representatives and employees without regard to age, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sex, sexual orientation or gender.

WHEREAS, due to recent protests resulting from high profile homicides of Blacks throughout the United States, the Town of Edmonston highlights the distrust that may exist across racial and ethnic lines; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that persons of color experience inequalities across many aspects of daily living including, but not limited to, housing, education, employment, and health; and

WHEREAS, this country's ugly history of state-sanctioned violence against Black people continues to persist despite legislative actions; and

WHEREAS, despite a Constitution that considers all people equal, profound disparities exist for Blacks and other people of color across the United States; and

WHEREAS, Black people generally are unfairly targeted and profiled by law enforcement throughout the country at rates beyond what can be reasonable expected; and

WHEREAS, persons of color are justifiably outraged by this country's devaluation of their life and humanity; and

WHEREAS, communities, such as Edmonston, Maryland must recognize the need to critically balance the enforcement of law with effective, fair, and transparent police services; and

WHEREAS, the town has identified racial equity as a strategic priority, focusing on fair and equitable services being delivered to all persons who work or visit Edmonston; and

WHEREAS, the town recognizes and honors the critical role of our Police Department in enhancing the safety and quality of life for our community; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that communities receive the kind of police services they demand and as the policymakers representing the Town of Edmonston, we continue to commit and provide the most effective, fair and transparent services possible.

WHEREAS, it is indisputable that all human life is invaluable, therefore **BLACK LIVES MATTER**; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Edmonston, stands firmly against any form of racial inequality and our Elected Officials, Police Department and Staff holds itself to its oath to faithfully serve without partiality or prejudice and are committed to take the following actions:

- A new Right to Intervene General Order, implementing a duty to intervene requirement that compels both sworn and non-sworn agency members “to either stop, or attempt to stop, another employee when force is being inappropriately applied or is no longer required, is unethical, or that violates law or policy (e.g., excessive force, theft, fraud, inappropriate language, sexual misconduct, harassment, falsifying documents, inappropriate behavior, etc.). Intervention may be verbal and/or physical.
- Support Prince George’s County recommendations to implement creative solutions that erase Black inequality in law enforcement and all other areas that affect Black lives.
- Research programs that will provide the Edmonston staff with training opportunities that teach cultural awareness.
- Review the Town’s policies to ensure that all actions support the Town’s commitment to protect the civil rights of underrepresented minorities in the Town of Edmonston.
- The creation of a Police Citizen Advisory Committee that will **initiate and foster communication and involvement between the citizens of Edmonston and the Edmonston Police Department.**

Passed by the Edmonston Town Council this _____ day of July, 2020.

Averi Gray, Town Clerk

Tracy R. Gant, Mayor