

RESOLUTION No.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASADENA SUPPORTING A HUMANE AND COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM PROPOSAL

WHEREAS, The United States of America is a nation of values, founded on the principles that all men and women are created equal, and promise of freedom for all; AND

WHEREAS, the current immigration system is broken, antiquated and not meeting the challenges of the 21st century. It separates families, creates long backlogs for families who are seeking reunification. Further, it neglects the hard work and financial contributions immigrants make to our country; and

WHEREAS, since 2008 more than 1.6 million immigrants have been deported, and one in every ten American children faces the threat of deportation of a parent; AND

WHEREAS, It is estimated that about 11 million undocumented immigrants are in the United States, and California has the largest population of immigrants, both legal and undocumented; AND

WHEREAS, The President of the United States implemented the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and The Migration Policy Institute estimates that 460,000 Californians qualify for DACA and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services has reported that 152, 855 Californians have applied as of June 30th 2013. This is a step in the right direction but, it is not enough; AND

WHEREAS, One in 10 workers in California is an undocumented immigrant, and immigrants are a vibrant, productive, and vital part of the state's growing economy, holding jobs in areas such as food preparation, machine operations, construction, domestic and household services and general sales; AND

WHEREAS, the White House reports that a comprehensive immigration reform with a pathway to citizenship would, over 10 years, boost U.S. GDP by \$1.4 trillion, increase total income for all Americans by \$791 billion, generate \$184 billion in additional state and federal tax revenue from currently undocumented immigrants, and add about 2 million jobs to the U.S. economy.

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County is home to nearly 1 million undocumented immigrants and 20 percent of children in Los Angeles County have at least one undocumented parent; AND

WHEREAS, the San Gabriel Valley and the city of Pasadena are home to an ever growing, diverse population of immigrant families who work and contribute to the city and the region; AND

WHEREAS, according to the 2010 Census, the city of Pasadena was made up of 31% of foreign born persons; AND

WHEREAS, the City of Pasadena has adopted as part of the 2013 Federal Legislative Platform that we strongly believes that immigrants strengthen the community economically and culturally, and welcomes their contributions to society. With regard to federal legislation aimed at reforming federal immigration laws, the City would urge Congress and the President to reaffirm that addressing unlawful immigration in a compassionate manner is the primary responsibility of the federal government, and that sufficient resources must be committed on the federal level for this purpose; AND

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Pasadena hereby supports a humane and comprehensive immigration reform proposal with the following principles: provides an attainable and affordable pathway to full citizenship for the nearly 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States; family unity as a cornerstone of our immigration system; provides due process and labor protections; allows access to key essential services such as health care; and local governments should not be mandated to enforce federal immigration laws, particularly when resources necessary to enforce local laws are already stretched.

Adopted by the following vote at the meeting of the City Council on September 30, 2012

AYES:


NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Mark Jomsky, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:


Michele Beal Bagneris, City Attorney

CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
October 28, 2013 – 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chamber

REGULAR MEETING

OPENING:

Mayor Bogaard called the regular meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. (Absent: Councilmembers Gordo and Madison)

*** Material omitted ***

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LEGISLATIVE POLICY
COMMITTEE

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING A
HUMANE AND COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION
REFORM PROPOSAL**

Recommendation: Adopt a resolution of the City Council of the City of Pasadena supporting a humane and comprehensive immigration reform proposal.

Recommendation of Legislative Policy Committee: On September 25, 2013, the Legislative Policy Committee had a discussion on a resolution supporting a humane and comprehensive immigration reform proposal. The Committee supported forwarding this resolution to the City Council for consideration with the intent that the resolution includes language from the 2013 Federal Legislative Platform. (Resolution No. 9319)

Vice Mayor Robinson introduced the item, and Julie Gutierrez, Assistant City Manager, summarized the agenda report as part of a PowerPoint presentation.

Yuny Parada, Organizing for America
Miriam Mendez, Pasadena/Altadena Coalition of Transformative Leaders (PACTL)
Leonila Perez, PACTL
Angelica Salas, Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)
Rosanna Del Rio, Pasadena resident
Ricardo Moreno, Pasadena resident
Becky Cheng, Representative for Congresswoman Judy Chu
Dr. Antonio Gallardo, All Saints Church
Lorena Del Rio, Pasadena resident
Phillip Sanchez, Pasadena Police Chief speaking as an individual

In response to Councilmember Tornek's question, Police Chief Sanchez stated that the approval of the proposed resolution will create a bridge of communication and improved access to City services for undocumented individuals, noting that the open dialogue will aid in preventing continuous unreported exploitation of undocumented persons.

Councilmember Gordo stated that the City's support for immigration reform is important for multiple reasons, but is most important because comprehensive immigration reform will offer an opportunity for immigrants to assimilate into America society.

Councilmember Kennedy stated his support for the resolution, however, suggested a number of revisions to the language of the proposed resolution.

Councilmember Masuda stated his intent to abstain from supporting the resolution, noting that the matter is beyond the City's control, but expressed appreciation for the comments made regarding immigration reform.

Councilmember Tornek expressed his views that the City should not take a position on major national issues unrelated to City business, and urged the Legislative Policy Committee and staff to consider the following two items in determining whether an issue should be considered by the City Council: (1) the impact the issue has on Pasadena residents; and (2) the influence a City Council action will have on the outcome. He also stated that he is supportive of immigration reform, and thanked Police Chief Sanchez for illustrating the benefits of adopting the proposed resolution.

Following discussion, it was moved by Vice Mayor Robinson, seconded by Councilmember Gordo, to approve the staff recommendation, and authorize the City Attorney to incorporate suggested changes to the resolution as necessary (maintaining the integrity of the City Council's action).

AYES: Councilmembers Gordo, Kennedy,
Madison, McAustin, Tornek, Vice
Mayor Robinson, Mayor Bogaard
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Councilmember Masuda
ABSENT: None

The Mayor thanked Vice Mayor Robinson for her leadership in this process.

*** Material omitted ***