



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS REPORT

TO: THE HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: NATALIE MOSER, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

DATE: APRIL 5, 2021

SUBJECT: CONSIDER COSPONSORING A VIRTUAL EVENT ON APRIL 11 WITH ORANGE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS, AND DIRECTING STAFF TO COORDINATE A DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION EVENT AT CENTRAL PARK ON APRIL 18

During the past year, a number of difficult and challenging events around issues of race have highlighted a growing divide in our nation and here in our Huntington Beach community. Orange County Human Relations has reported that in our region, we have recorded annual increases in the number of reported hate crimes for four consecutive years.

Against that backdrop, Orange County Human Relations (OC Human Relations) is working to coordinate an online virtual event on April 11, 2021, to encourage dialogue emphasizing the fact that we continue to maintain a vision for our country grounded in mutual respect, acceptance, and equality. I propose that the City of Huntington Beach cosponsor that OC Human Relations event.

In addition, I am asking that the City Council support my request to direct staff to develop an event focused around diversity, equity, and inclusion on April 18, 2021, at Central Park. While a small gesture, coordinating such an event would allow our public safety teams to focus on keeping the community safe while we address issues associated with the “White Lives Matter” rally that will be held at the Pier on April 11, 2021. Further, hosting such an event will serve to articulate and reinforce for our community that the City is focused on building bridges between diverse people and cultures, and that everyone – regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, or socio-economic status – is welcome here in Surf City.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

I recommend that the City Council:

- Serve as an official co-sponsor of the virtual event being hosted by OC Human Relations on April 11, 2021.
- Direct staff to develop an outdoor event focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion at Central Park on April 18, 2021.