



**MOTION: WITHERS**

**SECOND: GRAHAM**

**RE: Fredericksburg City Council Message to our Community**

**ACTION: APPROVED: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0**

**June 2, 2020  
Special Meeting  
Resolution 20-42**

On May 25, George Floyd was killed by Minneapolis police officers while in their custody. He was just the latest black person to die at the hands of law enforcement, joining a horrifically long list of Americans who have suffered similar fates. Americans nationwide are justifiably angry and frustrated, and they have taken this anger to the streets in protest. City Council shares that outrage and joins with protesters in their calls for justice.

Fredericksburg's vision for our City is to be a city that works for everyone, a community where the people are writing the next chapters of Fredericksburg's history. Those chapters are being written now, by protesters, by residents, by every member of this community. We began a robust and engaged community dialogue in 2017, where hundreds of community members sat together to tell the story of the City, a complete story that recognizes the many significant local African American contributions. We look forward to writing the next chapter of our story in a way that reflects our mutual and strong desire for justice for all, equality, respect, and peace.

The City Council calls upon the Fredericksburg community to exercise patience and understanding, and to show compassion to one another at this time. We must listen to each other. We are one community. We are in this together. Fredericksburg united will prevail through this period of unrest, as we have prevailed in the past.

Therefore, the City Council hereby resolves that:

- We join the community in condemning acts of violence by law enforcement against black people;
- We recognize that the expression of public concern is the essence of democracy and a caring populace, and we continue to support peaceful and meaningful demonstrations in our community.
- We call on the people of Fredericksburg to come together, to listen to one another, and love each other, and to write justice, equality, respect, and peace into the future of the City.
- We pledge ourselves to this continuing experiment in self-governance, and we recognize the role of peaceful protest as an essential element of our democracy.
- Black Lives Matter.

**Votes:**

**Ayes:** Greenlaw, Withers, Devine, Duffy, Frye, Graham, Kelly

**Nays:** None

**Absent from Vote:** None

**Absent from Meeting:** None

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***Clerk's Certificate***

*I certify that I am Clerk of Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, and that the foregoing is a true copy of Resolution No. 20- 42, adopted at a meeting of the City Council held June 2, 2020, at which a quorum was present and voted.*



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***Tonya B. Lacey, MMC***  
***Clerk of Council***