



CITY OF DEL REY OAKS

Council Agenda Report

DATE: May 23, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Councilmember Uy & Councilmember Ragsdale-Cronin

SUBJECT: Authorize the Annual Display of the New Pride Flag at City Hall to Commemorate Pride Month in the whole month of June

CEQA: This action does not constitute a “project” as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines section 15378 as it will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Recommendation

That the Del Rey Oaks City Council authorizes the annual public Pride flag-raising event on June 1st and the display of the Pride flag at City Hall during the whole month of June to commemorate LGBTQ+ Pride Month. Displaying the Pride flag would demonstrate our city’s commitment to supporting visibility, dignity, and equity for all its residents, including those in the LGBTQ+ community. It would also align with the city’s core values of diversity and inclusiveness and the proclamation recognizing June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month that the city council presented in 2022.

Policy Implications

By displaying the Pride flag, Del Rey Oaks would join numerous cities within the Monterey Peninsula and across the country that celebrate Pride Month by publicly displaying the Pride flag at city hall or other public spaces. This act would be consistent with the city's ongoing commitment to supporting diversity and inclusivity, which is a core value for our community. Additionally, it would help to promote awareness and education of LGBTQ+ issues, which is essential for promoting a more equitable and just society.

Fiscal Implications

There are no significant financial implications to the city for authorizing the display of the Pride flag. The cost of the flag would be minimal, and any necessary installation or maintenance would be absorbed within the city's regular budget. The display of the Pride flag would be a symbolic gesture that would contribute to making Del Rey Oaks a welcoming and inclusive community.

Background

The city council of Del Rey Oaks has recognized the importance of supporting the LGBTQ+ community in the past. In June 2022, the council authorized the display of the Pride flag at City Hall to commemorate Pride Month and passed a proclamation recognizing June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month, affirming our city's commitment to supporting diversity and inclusivity. By displaying the Pride

flag at City Hall during the month of June annually, the city council would be taking concrete action to support these values and demonstrate solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community.

Del Rey Oaks is a welcoming community with a diverse LGBTQ+ population, and displaying the Pride flag annually at City Hall would signal our commitment to supporting and celebrating our LGBTQ+ community and all our residents as a whole.

Summary & Discussion

The City of Del Rey Oaks has a diverse community that is strengthened by the diversity of its residents, including those who identify as LGBTQ+. While significant progress has been made in recent years, LGBTQ+ individuals still face discrimination and exclusion in many areas of their lives. Displaying the Pride flag annually at City Hall during the whole month of June would send a powerful message and a strong symbolic gesture of support and inclusion to our LGBTQ+ residents and would align with our policy of promoting inclusiveness and celebrating diversity. Additionally, the cost of purchasing a Pride flag would be minimal and easily accommodated within the City's budget.

In conclusion, we urge the City Council to authorize the annual public Pride flag-raising event on June 1st and the display of the Pride Flag at City Hall during the whole month of June to commemorate Pride Month and to demonstrate our support for the LGBTQ+ community. Thank you so much for considering this important agenda item.

Respectfully submitted,

Councilmember Uy and Councilmember Ragsdale-Cronin