



Leana Kinley <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Letter to City Council

1 message

Margie Hidalgo <margiehidalgo@yahoo.com>

Sun, Oct 25, 2020 at 8:35 PM

To: "leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us" <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Good evening,

I sent a letter to the City Council regarding the need for anti-racism training. If it's not too much trouble, I'm wondering if it can be included in the meeting to show my support. Please feel free to edit to correct any errors that I may have overlooked.

Thanks again.

Margie Hidalgo



Leana Kinley <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Support for Anti-Racism Training: Perspective from a community member

1 message

'Margie Hidalgo' via City Council <citycouncil@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Sun, Oct 25, 2020 at 8:06 PM

Reply-To: Margie Hidalgo <margiehidalgo@yahoo.com>

To: "citycouncil@ci.stevenson.wa.us" <citycouncil@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Dear City Council Members,

I've had the opportunity to view both the September and October City Council meetings and would like to take this opportunity to provide my perspective as a citizen of the city of Stevenson and the county of Skamania. First, I would like to thank Annie McHale for bringing up the subject for anti-racism training. Contrary to what Council member Muth may believe, it is imperative that equity and racial sensitivity training be provided to not only to council members, but especially to the law enforcement entities here in Skamania County as well as to the education community in charge of fomenting a more racially equitable and sensitive population amongst our youth. Additionally, I am grateful to Council member Knudsen in his comments on the benefits of being more informed in this regard and to other council members (Ileana and Amy) for their valid suggestions on how to move forward. I am thoroughly dismayed and perplexed by Councilman Muth's limited view that training is not needed in our area. (I'm sorry his college experience was painful). There is definitely racism, intolerance, and ignorance in our community. The incident that occurred over the summer at the ice cream shop was disturbing enough, but the law enforcement's response was even more disturbing. Even though most of the community has been wonderful to us, my husband and I have experienced both overt and subtle forms of racism and xenophobia, not so much within Stevenson, but within the county at large. We're older, retired and can turn our backs to it, but we do know it's there. I would love to encourage a more ethnically enriched diverse community.

Additionally, I would love to see a public forum in this regard. It would be enlightening to see and hear additional input.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Margie Hidalgo
Fernando Hidalgo
Stevenson, WA