

RESOLUTION NO. 25-2009

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK, WASHINGTON, AFFIRMING ITS COMMITMENT TO ENSURE THAT ALL INDIVIDUALS REGARDLESS OF GENDER IDENTITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, OR GENDER EXPRESSION, FEEL SAFE AND SUPPORTED, AND REAFFIRMING THAT LAKE FOREST PARK IS A WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE, AND SAFE COMMUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE LGBT+ COMMUNITY, GROUNDED IN THE PRINCIPLES OF THE "CHARTER FOR COMPASSION"

WHEREAS, on December 8, 2016, the Lake Forest Park City Council approved Resolution 1594, reaffirming the Charter for Compassion and reconfirming the principles of being a Compassionate City; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2017, the Lake Forest Park City Council approved Resolution 1606, declaring Lake Forest Park a welcoming, inclusive, and safe community; and

WHEREAS, the Lake Forest Park City Council is interested in reaffirming these principles and emphasizing that members of the LGBT+ community are welcome and supported in the city; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lake Forest Park recognizes and upholds the rights of individuals to be treated fairly and to live their lives with dignity and respect and free from discrimination or targeting because of their immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, faith, race, national origin, age, ability, ethnicity, housing status, economic status, or other social status; and

WHEREAS, there have been several executive orders in recent weeks targeting the LGBT+ community, particularly targeting transgender individuals; and

WHEREAS, across the country, there continues to be legislation proposed and enacted that targets LGBT+ communities, threatening access to healthcare, education, and protections under the law, and

WHEREAS, a 2024 U.S. National Survey on the Mental Health of LGBT+ young people by the Trevor Project found nearly 40 percent (40%) of those youth seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the inherent worth and equal rights of all people, including LGBT+ people, and is committed to ensuring that Lake Forest Park remains a welcoming, inclusive, and safe community for all who live, work, and visit here; and

WHEREAS, the City strongly condemns any act of harassment, bullying, intimidation, violence, or other acts of hate that are based on immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, faith, race, national origin, age, ability, ethnicity, housing status, economic status, or other social status; and

WHEREAS, the City's current practice prohibits City employees from inquiring or discriminating based on gender or sexual orientation or expression and requires employees to comply with the Washington Law Against Discrimination, Chapter 49.60 RCW; and

WHEREAS, the City will continue to work, in cooperation with our community partners, to ensure our services and programs are accessible and open to all individuals; and

WHEREAS, as leaders in the community, we have a special responsibility not to stay silent in the face of discrimination, harassment, or hate against any of our residents, and we choose to be a leader in protecting the human rights, equity, public safety, dignity, and social well-being of all individuals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Lake Forest Park, as follows:

Section 1. The City Council reaffirms that Lake Forest Park is a welcoming, inclusive, and safe community that serves its residents regardless of immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, faith, race, national origin, age, ability, ethnicity, housing status, economic status, or other social status.

Section 2. The City Council is committed to continuing our work to reach out to and connect with all members of our community to ensure that our programs are accessible and open to all individuals and continue to uplift the voices and contributions of individuals, communities, and leaders and to celebrate LGBT+ individuals through public events, education, and partnerships with local organizations.

Section 3. The City Council affirms the right of individuals to: (i) seek, obtain, provide, or facilitate gender-affirming care, especially for youth, in accordance with state laws; (ii) have access to facilities by requiring the use of gender-segregated facilities, such as restrooms, locker rooms, dressing rooms, and homeless or emergency shelters, that are consistent with that individual's gender expression or gender identity; (iii) engage in speech or expression supporting LGBT+ people; including but not limited to disseminating books and literature, engaging in the arts, holding discussions, and drag or other cultural performances; (iv) define their own gender and sex with or without regard to biological sex assigned at birth.

Section 4. The City of Lake Forest Park will not use city monies, facilities, property, equipment, or personnel for the purpose of targeting or apprehending persons for exercising their rights identified in Section 3 above.

Section 5. The City Council intends that the Lake Forest Park Police Department will continue efforts to build trust with all people in the City, including our LGBT+ community, and will actively investigate hate crimes, which include crimes targeting individuals due to their actual or perceived gender or sexual orientation.

Section 6. CORRECTIONS. The City Clerk is authorized to make necessary corrections to this resolution, including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, ordinance numbering, section/subsection numbers, and any references thereto.

PASSED BY A MAJORITY VOTE of the members of the Lake Forest Park City Council this 27th day of March, 2025.

APPROVED:



[Thomas French \(Mar 28, 2025 16:59 PDT\)](#)

Thomas French
Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:



Matt McLean
City Clerk

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: March 21, 2025

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: March 27, 2025

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