



**URGENT ITEM
AGENDA
MATERIAL** Government Code
Section 54954.2(b) Rules of Procedure
Chapter III.C.5

**THIS ITEM IS NOT YET AGENDIZED AND MAY OR MAY NOT BE
ACCEPTED FOR THE AGENDA AS A LATE ITEM, SUBJECT TO THE
CITY COUNCIL'S DISCRETION ACCORDING TO BROWN ACT
RULES**

Meeting Date: June 6, 2023

Item Description: Honoring June 2023 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month.

This item is submitted pursuant to the provision checked below:

Emergency Situation (54954.2(b)(1) - majority vote required)

Determination by a majority vote of the legislative body that an emergency situation exists, as defined in Section 54956.5.

Immediate Action Required (54954.2(b)(2) - two-thirds vote required)

There is a need to take immediate action and the need for action came to the attention of the local agency subsequent to the agenda for this meeting being posted.

Once the item is added to the agenda (Consent or Action) it must be passed by the standard required vote threshold (majority, two-thirds, or 7/9).

Facts supporting the addition of the item to the agenda under Section 54954.2(b) and Chapter III.C.5 of the Rules of Procedure:

Councilmembers became aware after the submission deadline that an annual recognition for June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month had not been submitted. Waiting until the next regularly scheduled opportunity would be too late to recognize pride during June.

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmembers Sophie Hahn & Ben Bartlett (authors), Mayor Jesse Arreguin and Councilmember Terry Taplin (co-sponsors)

Subject: Resolution to Honor June 2023 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a proclamation to honor June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month in the City of Berkeley and authorize the City Manager to fly the rainbow every year on the month of June.

BACKGROUND

The city of Berkeley has a long and notable history of leadership in promoting LGBTQ+ rights. As early as the 1970s, Berkeley became one of the first cities in the United States to adopt legislation prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation. This groundbreaking step paved the way for other cities and states to follow suit and marked Berkeley as a trailblazer in the fight for LGBTQ+ equality.

Berkeley honors special days and months such as National Freedom to Marry Day and LGBTQ+ Mental Health Awareness Month but also has the first city council in the nation to endorse marriage equality.

The City of Berkeley has continued each year to honor June as a symbolic month in which lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgendered people, and allies come together and affirm their various forms of freedom and pride.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONTACT PERSONS

Councilmember Sophie Hahn 510-981-7150

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Resolution

RESOLUTION HONORING JUNE 2023 AS LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley recognizes the importance of a diverse and inclusive community that embraces individuals of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley seeks to highlight the importance of equality and freedom for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community, acknowledging their valuable contributions to our vibrant community; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley was the first city in the nation to establish a Domestic Partner registration system that includes same-gender couples, and the first to endorse marriage equality; and

WHEREAS, many of the people who live, work, attend school, and visit Berkeley and contribute to Berkeley's culture, values, and economy are part of the LGBTQ+ community; and

WHEREAS, despite significant advancements, discrimination, violence, and injustices against members of the LGBTQ+ community persist, both locally and globally, making it crucial for Berkeley to stand in solidarity with all members of the LGBTQ+ community; and

WHEREAS, June is internationally recognized as Pride Month, commemorating the historic Stonewall Riots of June 1969, which marked a turning point in the LGBTQ+ rights movement; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to acknowledge that the transgender community, in particular, has been at the forefront of the struggle for LGBTQ+ rights, facing disproportionate levels of discrimination, violence, and marginalization; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that Berkeley denounce the alarming surge of more than 340 anti-LGBTQ+ bills brought forward by state legislatures around the country - more than 150 specifically targeting the transgender community - and growing political attacks that threaten their rights, dignity, and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley affirms its unwavering support for the transgender community and condemns all forms of discrimination and prejudice against transgender, genderqueer, and gender nonconforming individuals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley recognizes the importance of centering the transgender community within the larger LGBTQ+ movement and elevating their voices to promote understanding, empathy, and societal change;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Berkeley hereby declares the month of June as Pride Month, reaffirming its commitment to celebrating and honoring the LGBTQ+ community and their invaluable contributions in Berkeley, our nation, and the world; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Berkeley condemns the recent surge in anti-transgender and other anti-LGBTQ+ legislation and political attacks that undermine their rights and equality, recognizing that such actions stand in direct opposition to the values of our diverse and inclusive community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Berkeley stands in strong solidarity with the entire

LGTBQ+ community, affirming their right to live full, safe, and authentic lives.