

APPENDIX A:

Legislation

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH THE
*SOCIAL JUSTICE, RACE AND EQUITY COMMISSION***

- WHEREAS, the City of Brookhaven was incorporated by a referendum of the Citizens of Brookhaven in 2012; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Brookhaven became certified as a City of Ethics in 2013 and has maintained that certification; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Brookhaven became a Welcoming City on October 10, 2017 to demonstrate best practices in developing plans and policies that encourages newcomers and long-time residents to participate in social, civic and economic endeavors while highlighting the importance of being an inclusive city; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Brookhaven established the Affordable Housing Task Force on September 16, 2016 to ensure the reliable and favorable climate for the preservation and development of affordable housing options in Brookhaven; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Brookhaven accepted the Young Girl's State for Peace on June 30, 2017 to preserve historic and educational awareness of the global tragedy of the human sex trade; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Brookhaven adopted a Non Discrimination Ordinance on January 14, 2020 to protect and safeguard the right and opportunity of all persons to be free from all forms of discrimination, including discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, marital status, familial status, or veteran/military status. Brookhaven's purpose in enacting the ordinance is to promote the public health and welfare of all persons who live and work in the City of Brookhaven; and
- WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council believe the national events and demonstrations concerning social justice, race and equity is an important topic to the City of Brookhaven and all its residents, businesses and visitors; and
- WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council seek to create an inclusive and welcoming forum to have open and honest discussions on social justice, race and equity issues;

NOW THEREFORE, in a public and regularly scheduled meeting, the City Council for the City of Brookhaven resolves and decides as follows:

- The Social Justice, Race and Equity Commission “Commission” is established with the following representation:
 - Faith-based Community
 - Education Leadership (K-12 and University)
 - Business Community
 - Cross Generational (from teens to seniors)
 - Brookhaven Character Areas as defined in the zoning code
- Brookhaven resident John J. Funny is appointed Chair of the Commission.
- The specific members to the Commission will be advanced to the City Council for consideration and approval at the October 13, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting.
- The Commission will review the City of Brookhaven Vision and Mission statements, City Charter, as well as policies and procedures to assess for inherent bias.
- The Commission will review and assess the City of Brookhaven’s public engagement and communications to ensure all City residents and businesses can engage their government effectively and that information is shared equally.
- The Commission will review and assess the Brookhaven Police Department’s use of force policy, oversight, and accountability.
- The Commission will discern if City policy statements concerning social equity, race, and equity issues that are primarily within the legislative control of County, State, and Federal government (i.e., education, justice administration, etc.).
- The Commission shall conduct such inquiries as it deems appropriate or necessary to give effect to its Social Justice, Race and Equity charge.
- The Commission will be afforded staff support by the City Manager’s Office and be entitled to utilize the services of the City Attorney, or his designee.
- The Commission shall sit for 1 year from the date of the Commission’s first organizational meeting, unless disbanded earlier by Resolution of the City Council.
- The Commission will provide periodic updates to the City Council to their work efforts and progress.
- The Commission shall not be required to adopt formal bylaws or other rules for its organization and work efforts.

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- The Commission will be required to follow public meeting and public records policies consistent with other boards and commissions of the City of Brookhaven.
- Commission Members shall not receive compensation for their participation.

SO RESOLVED, this 22 day of September 2020.

John Arthur Ernst, Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

Approved as to form:

Susan Hiott
City Clerk

Christopher D. Balch
City Attorney