



Office of the Mayor

CONSENT CALENDAR  
November 7, 2023

To: Honorable Members of the City Council

From: Mayor Jesse Arreguín, Councilmember Sophie Hahn, Councilmember Susan Wengraf

Subject: United Against Hate Week 2023

#### RECOMMENDATION

1. Adopt a Resolution declaring November 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as United Against Hate Week.
2. Adopt a Resolution approving the D-13 expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$500 per Councilmember, to support the cost associated with the Berkeley event at the UC Theatre. The total cost is \$3,000.

#### BACKGROUND

Starting in Berkeley in 2017 in response to far-right rallies, United Against Hate was originally a poster campaign and spread throughout Alameda County. It has since transformed into an annual statewide event. The goal for United Against Hate Week is to provide communities with the tools, resources, and support they need to create locally driven actions to stand united against growing intolerance. This annual week of activities and follow up events are designed to not just raise awareness about the dangers of hate and the need for respect and civil discourse, but to help community members build stronger connections with civic leaders, businesses, and schools, so that deeper engagement can continue year-round. ([www.unitedagainsthateweek.org](http://www.unitedagainsthateweek.org))

Not in Our Town ([www.niot.org](http://www.niot.org)) is a non-profit that serves communities across the country working to build safety, inclusion and equity for all. They are, once again, facilitating the organization for United Against Hate Week, and have recently received a Stop the Hate grant award from the State of California for the ongoing administration of United Against Hate Week for the next 2 years. This will be the foundation for a long-term and sustainable week of action.

Additionally, this year, United Against Hate Week has formed a new partnership with CA vs. Hate, an initiative out of the California Civil Rights Department, who will be helping with coordinating outreach and amplifying the work across the state.

Berkeley will be hosting an event on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> in partnership with Berkeley Unified School District at 3pm at the UC Theatre that will include a short film and panel discussion for teachers, students and their families. Proceeds from Council

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office contributions will be used to offset the cost of expenses associated with the set-up and labor for the event. The UC Theatre is donating the venue.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

\$500 from the Mayor's D-13 account and up to \$500 from other Councilmembers who wish to contribute.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with adopting this recommendation.

CONTACT PERSON

Mayor Jesse Arreguín 510-981-7100

Attachments:

- 1: Resolution Proclaiming November 12 – 18, 2023 as United Against Hate Week
- 2: D-13 Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

COMMEMORATING UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK 2023

WHEREAS, the United States is a nation of immigrants, whose strength comes from its diversity; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution enshrines equality on all individuals, regardless of race, gender, orientation, religion, or political view; and

WHEREAS, rhetoric continues to generated a toxic environment that encourages the propagation of racist, xenophobic, anti-Semitic, sexist, homophobic, Islamophobic, and other bigoted views by emboldened hate groups and individuals;

WHEREAS, deep divisions within our country are the result of extreme ideology, further strengthening a cycle of mistrust and suspicion fueled by fear, anxiety, and insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the number of hate crimes across the United States continues to increase with hate crimes against African Americans and Asian Americans especially increasing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley is dedicated to preventing and opposing hate and intolerance in our communities. Berkeley started United Against Hate Week in 2017, which has since expanded into a national movement; and

WHEREAS, education, compassion, and cooperation are key to unlocking understanding and embracing differences between people, with United Against Hate Week an important step in bridging divisions and strengthening our communities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that it hereby proclaims November 12 - 18, 2023 as United Against Hate Week in the City of Berkeley.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS FOR NOT IN OUR TOWN'S UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK

WHEREAS, Mayor Jesse Arreguin has surplus funds in his office expenditure account; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley will be hosting an event on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> in partnership with Berkeley Unified School District at 3pm at the UC Theatre that will include a short film and panel discussion for teachers, students and their families. Proceeds from Council office contributions will be used to offset the cost of expenses associated with the set-up and labor for the event at the UC Theatre. The UC Theatre is donating the venue.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that up to \$3,000 in funds relinquished by the Mayor and Councilmembers from their Council Office Budget up to \$500 per office shall be granted to the UC Theatre.