



## PORTLAND CIVIL RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS WELCOME SIGNING OF CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION AGAINST WHITE SUPREMACY

**CAIR-Oregon, OJRC, and Western States Center are proposing six steps the city can take to counter the threat to community safety and wellbeing**

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PORTLAND, Ore. – A group of Portland nonprofits is welcoming the historic passing by the Portland City Council of a resolution against white supremacist, white nationalist, and alt-right groups. The Oregon chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, the Oregon Justice Resource Center, and the Western States Center support today’s unanimous vote by the Council as a necessary first step in addressing the threat white supremacy and white nationalism pose to the community.

“It’s important to recognize how momentous today’s City Council’s resolution is,” said Amy Herzfeld-Copple, Deputy Director of Programs and Strategic Initiatives, Western States Center. “Portland is leading the nation by acknowledging the threat – past and present – posed by white nationalism and is taking action to combat it.”

The three organizations are proposing six steps to ensure the safety of our communities, to work with other leaders in our state and region, and to equip the City of Portland to effectively counter movements that seek to exploit bigotry and intolerance.

“Our proposals build on the important step Mayor Wheeler and the City Commissioners have taken today,” said Bobbin Singh, Executive Director of the Oregon Justice Resource Center. “Having acknowledged the threat we face from white supremacy and white nationalism, it’s vital that the passing of resolution is followed by action.”

CAIR-Oregon, the OJRC, and the Western States Center hope to work closely with City leadership to implement the action items.

“We want our community to be a welcoming and inclusive place for all Portlanders and for everyone who visits our city,” said Zakir Khan, Board Chair, CAIR-Oregon. “We’re ready to play our part in building a Portland where everyone feels safe and valued. We need to be able to have honest conversations about the harm that has been and is being caused by white supremacy and the best ways to address it.”

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