

Resolution of Condolence and Support Following the Massacre at Pulse in Orlando, Florida

WHEREAS, the City of Durham has been and continues to be a community that embraces the diversity of humankind; and

WHEREAS, the City of Durham is committed to residents' ability to enjoy their life without fear of harassment or discrimination due to their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation or belief, age, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, one place of refuge for the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender and Queer community, where they could safely be themselves, has long been bars and nightclubs such as Pulse in Orlando, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Pulse was opened twelve years ago by Barbara Poma to honor her deceased brother and named for his heart, and served as a community hub for HIV prevention, breast-cancer awareness and immigrant rights; and

WHEREAS, on June 12 of this year in Orlando, Florida a gunman, without reason or provocation, entered Pulse and massacred 49 people and grievously injured another 53 people; and

WHEREAS, we abhor gun violence; and

WHEREAS, this attack specifically targeted the LGBTQ community and the Latinx community; and

WHEREAS, we value and support all peaceful people, and especially at this time our LGBTQ community and Latinx community;

THEREFORE BE IT NOW RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Durham, North Carolina, that the city grieves for those killed and wounded; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we offer our condolences to the residents of the City of Orlando and the members of the LGBTQ community and Latinx community there; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we affirm our commitment to embracing diversity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we offer our support for members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender and Queer community and Latinx community everywhere and especially here in Durham.

Let it be spread far and wide, that people everywhere shall know our support and embrace for all peaceful members of our community, especially on this day the members of our LGBTQ community and Latinx community.