



COUNCIL AGENDA: 9/12/17
ITEM: 2.14

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Toni J. Taber, CMC
City Clerk

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: August 31, 2017

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE ACTIONS IN CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.

RECOMMENDATION: As recommended by the Rules and Open Government Committee on August 30, 2017, adopt a resolution condemning the "Unite the Right" rally on August 11-12, 2017 in Charlottesville, VA that resulted in a tragic fatality and many injuries.



Memorandum

TO: RULES AND OPEN GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE

FROM: Councilmember
Raul Peralez
Councilmember
Charles "Chappie" Jones

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: August 18, 2017

Approved

Date

8/18/17

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE ACTIONS IN
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA**

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution condemning the "Unite the Right" rally on August 11-12 in Charlottesville, VA that resulted in a tragic fatality and many injuries.

BACKGROUND

On the weekend of August 12, a rally dubbed "Unite the Right" in Charlottesville, VA escalated into a violent encounter that took the life of Heather Heyer and left many severely injured. The rally was attended by participants who were not only armed but donned symbols promoting anti-Semitism, discrimination, racism, and extreme nationalism.

The outcome of the event left the global community stunned and concerns from our own community members were raised after hearing that similar rallies are being organized in the Bay Area. While we remain steadfast in our constitutional right to free speech and to *peacefully* assemble, we do not support any speech and activity that rises to the level of threats, harassment, or violence. Furthermore, the presence of guns, knives and openly carried blunt-forced objects were apparent at the "Unite the Right" rally and should have no place in a peaceful assembly. It is to that end that we encourage our public safety departments and city services to scrutinize all events during the permitting process to ensure that these events do not cause harm to our community.

In the spirit of our "Welcome San José" policy, we strongly condemn all rhetoric that incites violence and creates an atmosphere of hate, racial bigotry, and discrimination in our city. We are proud of our diverse city and will continue to work towards ensuring inclusion and equality. We are proud of our diverse city and will continue to work towards ensuring all activities occurring on public property promotes inclusion and equality for all.