

STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 18, 2021

TO: City Council

FROM: Dianna Jensen, City Engineer, Public Works Engineering and Transportation,
Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Project Director
Kerry Daane Loux, Sustainability Coordinator, Climate Action and Adaptation
Plan Project Manager

SUBJECT: World Day for Cultural Diversity, May 21, 2021

Recommendation

Adopt the Proclamation recognizing Friday, May 21, 2021 as the *World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development*, a day set aside by the United Nations (UN) as an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to learn to live together in harmony.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact to adopting this Proclamation.

Background

The City of Davis is currently implementing its Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) Update to create a roadmap to net municipal and community carbon neutrality in the short term, identifying maximum efforts to implement carbon reduction actions by 2030, with a target of total carbon neutrality by 2040, five years ahead of California's 2045 target.

A key focus of the CAAP is to fully incorporate equity, inclusion and diversity in the Davis context into the project planning and outreach. As stated in the *Resolution of the Council Declaring a Climate Emergency and Proposing Mobilization Efforts to Restore a Safe Climate* adopted in March 2019, 'Low-income communities, communities of color, the young, the disabled, the elderly and indigenous communities have suffered the gravest consequences of climate change, and remediation of these impacts requires the active consultation and protection of vulnerable and historically exploited populations.

'It is the firm belief of the City Council that Davis and the surrounding communities have the insight, drive, capacity and capital to work for environmental justice, and fully understand that when we work together across social and city borders, we can build transformative networks to combat climate change in our region. The City of Davis recognizes community environmental justice and commits to keeping the considerations of disadvantaged communities central to the climate emergency mobilization planning processes, and to invite and encourage these communities to directly advocate for their specific needs and equity in the environmental justice process.'

In light of these commitments, City Council recognizes Friday, May 21, 2021 as the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, based on actions of the United Nations (UN). In 2001, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) adopted the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and in December 2002, the UN General Assembly, in its resolution 57/249, declared May 21 to be the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.

Three-quarters of the world's major conflicts have a cultural dimension. These cultural dimensions are also present in the Davis context, and impact all aspects of our lived experience. Bridging the gap between cultures is urgent and necessary for peace, stability and development.

Cultural diversity is a driving force of development, not only with respect to economic growth, but also as a means of leading a more fulfilling intellectual, emotional, moral and spiritual life. This is captured in the seven culture conventions, which provide a solid basis for the promotion of cultural diversity. Cultural diversity is thus an asset that is indispensable for poverty reduction and the achievement of sustainable development.

At the same time, acceptance and recognition of cultural diversity in particular through innovative use of media and Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) are conducive to dialogue among civilizations and cultures, respect and mutual understanding.