

Resolution: OUT for Safe Spaces in Boyle Heights
Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council
Approved October 24, 2018

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WHEREAS, the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council (BHNC) is committed to improving the conditions of the social environment and overall quality of life for our stakeholders,

WHEREAS, an important element of healthy environments are safe and inclusive spaces free from discrimination, and

WHEREAS, history has shown that civil rights laws are effective in contributing to such environment and explicit federal statutory protections currently address discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, the lack of awareness and understanding of issues facing the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) community has contributed to a higher rate of isolation, depression, homelessness and poverty, and suicidal ideations or attempts; and

WHEREAS, education regarding LGBTQ issues increases understanding and cultivates acceptance of and respect for LGBTQ people and youth; and

WHEREAS, importance of the City and neighborhood council to work with local nonprofits such as the Latino Equality Alliance and other LGBTQ support groups is key to addressing anti-LGBTQ rights rhetoric and policies, it is critical that the BHNC takes a firm position and action to increase support, visibility, and access to safe spaces for the LGBTQ community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the BHNC will support the following:

- 1) Affirm its commitment to the full equality, inclusion, and acceptance of people of all gender identities and gender expressions;
- 2) Affirms the rights of LGBTQ individuals to be referred to by their name, gender, and pronoun of preference in all BHNC meetings, committees, sponsoring events and outreach;
- 3) Continuing advocacy for the rights of LGBTQ people;
- 4) To seek and support legislation that specifically recognizes LGBTQ as a protected group and addresses discrimination based upon sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression; and be it further resolved;
- 5) The BHNC will work in collaboration with other LGBTQ support groups/institutions to create ritual, programmatic and educational materials that will empower the community of Boyle Heights to be more inclusive and welcoming of LGBTQ people.