

**DRAFT Welcoming City/County Resolution**

*A **RESOLUTION** of the City Council of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ or Board of Commissioners of the County of \_\_\_\_\_, Washington affirming \_\_\_\_\_ is a welcoming city/county that respects the innate dignity of all people.*

***WHEREAS**, all people, including immigrants, are respected and valued and are vital to our shared prosperity; and*

***WHEREAS**, Fostering a welcoming environment for all people, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, or place of origin enhances \_\_\_\_\_'s cultural fabric, economic growth, and overall wellbeing and prosperity for current and future generations; and*

***WHEREAS**, \_\_\_\_\_ has long been recognized as a hospitable and welcoming community where diverse people, families, and institutions thrive and the contributions of all are celebrated and valued; and*

***WHEREAS**, \_\_\_\_\_ is committed to continuing to build a welcoming and neighborly atmosphere in our community, where all are welcomed, accepted, and fully integrated; and*

***WHEREAS**, Community efforts that promote understanding and collaboration between our native-born and foreign-born community members are crucial in encouraging and preserving \_\_\_\_\_'s welcoming environment; and*

***WHEREAS**, \_\_\_\_\_ encourages our businesses, civic groups, schools, government agencies, and other community institutions to undertake their own initiatives, beyond this resolution, to make \_\_\_\_\_ a welcoming place for new residents from other countries;*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City/County of \_\_\_\_\_ is a Welcoming City/County that embraces all residents and visitors regardless of race, creed, or national origin; strives for unity and harmony in our community; and respects the essential human dignity of all people.*

## **WELCOMING COMMUNITY – WHY IT’S IMPORTANT**

### **STRONGER TOGETHER**

Our community’s success depends on making sure everyone who’s a part of it—including immigrants—feels welcome here.

Becoming a more welcoming community means more customers for our local businesses, more jobs created by immigrant entrepreneurs, and a thriving economy that benefits us all.

By recognizing the contributions that we all make to creating a vibrant culture and a growing economy, we make our neighbors feel more included and our community more welcoming to new Americans and to everyone who calls our community home.

### **INNOVATION**

Immigrants are innovators: entrepreneurs and small-business owners whose contributions are helping us grow our local economy.

Immigrants bring new ideas and a willingness to work hard to see them succeed. They start businesses that bring jobs to our community—and that’s good for all of us.

We need to welcome everyone with the ingenuity and innovative ideas to help us create a thriving economy.

### **VIBRANT COMMUNITIES**

Immigrants are a vital part of our community—they bring fresh perspective and new ideas, start businesses and contribute to the vibrant diversity that we all value.

Immigrants make a huge contribution to the cultural fabric of our community— making it a place all kinds of people want to come and be a part of.

### **TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY ECONOMY**

Competing in a twenty-first century economy will require taking full advantage of our most important resource—our people. And that means welcoming the new Americans who are starting businesses, committing to our community, and helping build a stronger local economy.

Communities across the country and around the world are in a race to the top to attract the human capital that will allow them to thrive in a global economy.

Becoming a more welcoming place for immigrants gives us a leg up in that competition and helps us retain talented people of all backgrounds.

Working together to build a twenty-first century economy means making sure everyone who lives here feels welcome and included, no matter where they were born.

### **SHARED VALUES**

Our community was built by immigrants—hard-working people, our parents and grandparents, who believed in the American Dream. We should welcome those who are following in their footsteps and doing their part to create a thriving community.

From those who cook the food that we eat to those who create innovative businesses, new immigrants realize the value of working hard and doing your part to help build a stronger community.

When you look at immigrants in our community, you see people who share our values—people working hard to provide for their families and build a stronger economy for all of us.

### **FRIENDLINESS**

Our community has always been a welcoming community. We don't care where you came from or what you look like, we care about what kind of person you are.

We want people to know that our community is always willing to extend a hand in friendship to those who want to be a part of it.

Around here, we take neighborliness seriously. It's just who we are.

Around here, teamwork isn't just a slogan. Our company prides itself on making sure everyone who works here feels welcome—like a part of our team.