

## **A Resolution of the City Council of Newport Beach**

**Whereas;** The City of Newport Beach has a vital public interest in ensuring free, fair and truthful elections for city office, and;

**Whereas;** The City of Newport Beach has established a voluntary Code of Ethics for political campaign statements in municipal elections, and

**Whereas:** In the 2016 City Council election, signs were used in the Farsi language to suggest a candidate was “foreign” and to draw attention to the candidates ethnic and national background, and

**Whereas;** The use of such signs were part of a larger effort to focus on the candidates ethnic background and were inherently racist and bigoted, and

**Whereas:** The signs did not identify the party paying for the signs as required by state law, nor did the signs appear on any of the campaign expenditure reports related to the campaign, as required by law, and

**Whereas;** All three of the candidates in the race for District 7 have denounced the signs and have condemned their use in this campaign, and

**Whereas:** The City Council wishes to demonstrate its condemnation of the use of these racist signs in the campaign and to communicate in the strongest possible way that such tactics are out of place in Newport Beach and will not be tolerated.

**Now therefore be it resolved;** That the City Council condemns the use of these signs in the 2016 campaign, demands that the party responsible come forward and take responsibility for this black mark on our community and encourages the appropriate enforcement agencies to take action to enforce violations of the California Elections Code and the Political Reform Act related to this incident against the responsible party.