



**PRESS
RELEASE**

City of Martinez
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June 30, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE #6.30.2020

SUBJECT: Statement from Mayor Rob Schroder

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MARTINEZ – Martinez is my home and has been for the past 28 years. I have been honored to serve on the City Council for the past 24 years including the last 18 years as your Mayor. For as long as I have been in Martinez, this community has welcomed everyone. We are a diverse, inclusive community, somewhere anyone can proudly call home.

The City Council has, on a number of occasions, affirmed this commitment to our community through public statements that promote unity and inclusiveness. In March of 2017, the City Council adopted a resolution declaring the City’s commitment to being an inclusive, tolerant and supportive community for everyone and protecting our most vulnerable populations.

In October of 2017, the City Council adopted a resolution known as the “United Against Hate” Resolution, through which the City Council denounced and condemned intolerance of any individual or group and hate speech of any kind. At the same time, the City Council reaffirmed our commitment to serving and protecting all of our residents, with a high value placed on diversity, equality and inclusivity.

Today, we are united again as a Council in condemning the senseless hatred that still exists in this Country and sadly in our community. Black Lives Matter in Martinez. The fact that something so morally offensive as the two flyers found in the edges of our downtown area exist is just wrong and morally repugnant. It offends me personally, it offends our entire City Council, and frankly is offensive to the community at large.

Martinez does not tolerate hate-related crimes and as a community, we need to stand together to promote unity and acceptance of all people. This hateful, hurtful, and offensive act does not and will never define our City.

What will define our City is our collective value for a diverse, inclusive community, where everyone is welcome. This is what defines Martinez. I urge everyone in our community

to embrace tolerance, focus on building a strong supportive community, and standing up against those that are divisive and hurtful. As a community, we must stand together to support all people, no matter who they are or where they are from, as this is what makes our community strong.

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