



Human Relations Commission Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: JUNE 26, 2025**
FROM: HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION CHAIR **WARDS: ALL**
SUBJECT: CONSIDER THE FORMATION OF AN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESPONDING TO HATE

ISSUE:

Consider the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee on Responding to Hate.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Human Relations Commission consider the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee on Responding to Hate.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Riverside Human Relations Commission (HRC) exists to foster mutual understanding and respect among all people, and to promote fairness, equity, and justice. In recent months, across the region and country we have seen an increase in hateful rhetoric, targeted harassment, and discriminatory acts impacting marginalized communities. In response, this proposal recommends the creation of an **Ad Hoc Committee on Responding to Hate**, tasked with assessing incidents of hate, building a response framework, and identifying opportunities to promote education and prevention.

The creation of an Ad Hoc Committee to focus on responding to hate in the City of Riverside aligns with the 2025 Human Relations Commission task listed below:

- Support and advocate for efforts to address basic human rights and community well-being.

DISCUSSION:

The Ad Hoc Committee on Responding to Hate will focus on the following:

1. **Assessment and Monitoring**
 - Review and document recent hate incidents affecting Riverside communities and the Inland Empire region.

- Liaise with local law enforcement, schools, community groups, and residents for data gathering and testimony.
- 2. **Community Response Framework**
 - Develop timely response guidelines for hate incidents (e.g., public statements, vigils, solidarity actions).
 - Explore best practices from other cities and municipalities.
- 3. **Community Education and Engagement**
 - Promote public forums, listening sessions, and community dialogues to uplift voices of affected groups.
 - Engage in programming during United Against Hate week in late October
 - Partner with community-based organizations to implement anti-hate workshops and bystander intervention trainings.
- 4. **Policy and Recommendation Development**
 - Draft recommendations for the City Council and city departments on proactive policies or initiatives to counter hate.
 - Suggest updates to the City's anti-hate protocols or resolutions if needed.

Should the Commission vote to establish the Ad Hoc Committee, these tasks will be completed by June 30, 2026, and the Ad Hoc will be dissolved thereafter. Members of the Commission wishing to be a part of this Ad Hoc Committee shall volunteer during the meeting. The Ad Hoc Committee shall be composed solely of less than a quorum of the Commission and shall have a minimum of three members. If there are insufficient volunteers to meet this minimum requirement, the Chair of the Commission may appoint through assignment the necessary number of members required.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Prepared by: Krystelle Schneider, Senior Management Analyst