

# EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



---

## Action: Resolution 5073 in Support of a Statement of Principles for Immigrant Integration

---

Meeting Date: November 13, 2012  
[www.eugene-or.gov](http://www.eugene-or.gov)

Agenda Item Number: 5  
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5619

---

### **ISSUE STATEMENT**

This is an opportunity for the City Council to consider and take action on a resolution supporting a statement of principles for immigrant integration.

### **BACKGROUND**

Councilor Pat Farr has requested that this item be brought to the council for consideration. Councilor Farr is the Council Liaison to the Human Rights Commission, which earlier this year voted to request council support for the resolution.

With the historic and ongoing arrival of immigrants to Lane County our community is becoming increasingly diverse. In recognition of this increasing diversity and in an effort to make Lane County a welcoming and safe place, the Lane County Network for Immigrant Integration (LCNII), a consortium of leaders from business, education, government, labor, social services, and faith-based and community organizations, was created. LCNII has been collecting signatures of support from individuals and organizations for their Statement of Principles since October 2011. These principles create a strong message across the community about the value of immigrants and their families in our community, importance of respect, inclusion and integration, and recognition of challenges stemming from national immigration policies. The principles are an important acknowledgement of the many economic, social, cultural and civic contributions that immigrants make in building stronger and more vibrant communities.

### **RELATED CITY POLICIES**

- City Council goal for a *Safe Community* – a community where all people are safe, valued and welcome.
- Diversity and Equity Strategic Plan goals related to Leadership, Capacity, Service Delivery, and Communication and Engagement.

### **COUNCIL OPTIONS**

The council may adopt, modify, or decline to adopt the resolution.

**CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION**

The City Manager has no recommendation on this item.

**SUGGESTED MOTION**

I move to adopt Resolution 5073 in support of a Statement of Principles for immigrant integration.

**ATTACHMENTS**

A. Proposed Resolution

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Staff Contact: Lindsey Foltz  
Telephone: 541-682-5619  
Staff E-Mail: lindsey.m.foltz@ci.eugene.or.us

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION.**

**The City Council of the City of Eugene finds that:**

With the historic and ongoing arrival of immigrants to our community, we recognize the growing diversity that has occurred in Lane County. As leaders in business, education, government, labor, law enforcement, social services, faith-based, and community organizations, we value the economic, social, cultural, and civic contributions that immigrants have made and are continuing to make in building stronger and more vibrant communities. In an effort to create a more welcoming environment for our immigrant neighbors and promote a more thoughtful public dialogue about immigration, the City Council desires to affirm principles for immigrant integration.

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EUGENE, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Oregon, as follows:**

**Section 1.** The City Council affirms the following statement of principles for immigrant integration:

**A. Committing to Inclusion and Integration.** Our economic, social, and civic success as twenty-first century communities hinges on our ability to help immigrants become fully involved in all aspects of community life. We recognize that successful integration is a two-way process in which immigrants and all communities work together to achieve common goals.

**B. Recognizing the Contributions of all Immigrants to our Society.** For many generations, immigrants have come to the United States seeking better futures for themselves and their families. Their financial and cultural activities have enriched our communities. We value immigrants' historic and contemporary contributions as business owners, workers, consumers, taxpayers, civic leaders, artists and craftspeople.

**C. Supporting Immigrant Families.** The family is a vital source of strength and security for immigrants and the foundation for a strong, vibrant community. We endorse community-based organizations, programs, and policies that strengthen and support immigrant families and their children, especially in the areas of education, health, and employment.

**D. Promoting Respect and Non-Discrimination.** We commit to creating a community that respects the human right of all members of our society to be free from discrimination. We deplore all forms of racism, bigotry, or acts of harassment that are directed at any person, regardless of their country of origin or legal status. The rights of immigrants as workers and community members should be recognized and respected as a matter of both law and morality.

**E. Affirming a Common Sense Approach to Public Safety and Community Partnerships.** In keeping with Oregon state law (ORS 181.850), we believe that public safety resources are best focused on the prevention of criminal activity and the protection of community members. Public safety is enhanced when law enforcement officials cultivate relationships of trust with all members of the community, including immigrants, regardless of legal status.

**F. Advancing Humane and Just National Comprehensive Immigration Reform.** National immigration policy needs to be addressed at the federal level. We encourage local elected officials and other community leaders in Lane County to support all efforts to achieve comprehensive federal immigration reform that makes our nation's immigration policies more consistent, just, and humane.

**Section 2.** This Resolution is effective immediately upon its passage by the City Council.

**The foregoing Resolution adopted the 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2012.**

---

City Recorder