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Agenda Date: 4/8/2021
Council Meeting

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Information Packet

ITEM(S)

File ID 21-461

Proclamation for "Transgender Day of Visibility"

Contents of Supplement: Email Comments.

Item(s)

Supplemental Information:

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)). In addition, Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street. Supplemental Packets are also available on-line on the City Clerk's website.

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Bernard Canez

From: Brandi Nuse-Villegas <brandiangela78@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 07, 2021 2:51 PM
To: Clerk
Subject: Public comment ID 21-461

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Dear council,

Thank you, especially Soria, for the proclamation of the Transgender Day of Visibility. Living in the Central Valley, I saw the challenges of loved ones and friends who were transgender and non-binary. I am grateful that they found the courage to embrace and come out about their authentic identity. Some moved to Fresno from small towns, where they found a greater community of support. One close relative who is non-binary moved out of the area to feel safe and comfortable. I long for the day when community members don't feel the need to leave. We need to work as a community to support our transgender and non-binary neighbors, as well as the whole LGBTQIA. I am grateful for the progress and I encourage you as a council to be mindful of all the ways that you can promote safety and acceptance.

I also want to ask that you consider in your homeless efforts, that our trans and non-binary people, especially youth, are more at risk of homelessness, due to abuse, discrimination, and rejection and that the need for shelters for these is great. Shelters where people don't have to share spaces with others of a particular gender is helpful, but we also need to ensure that staff at all shelters are compassionate and trained to serve all LGBTQIA clients with dignity.

Thank you