

**From:** [Sell](#)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#)  
**Subject:** SMC Congregational Statement on Anti-Racism  
**Date:** Monday, January 11, 2021 4:59:06 PM  
**Attachments:** [SMC Congregational Statement on Anti-Racism.pdf](#)

---

Respectfully submitted for public comment for tonight's Salem City Council meeting -  
Congregational Statement on Anti-Racism from Salem Mennonite Church.

Beth Yutzie Sell

**From:** [Hollie Oakes-Miller](#)  
**To:** [Chuck Bennett](#); [Steve Powers](#); [Virginia Stapleton](#); [Trevor Phillips](#); [Tom Andersen](#); [Jackie Leung](#); [Jose Gonzalez](#); [Chris Hoy](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [Jim Lewis](#); [citycouncil](#); [CityRecorder](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comments for 01-11-21 City Council Meeting  
**Date:** Monday, January 11, 2021 3:18:37 PM

---

Dear City Leaders,

With respect to agenda item 5.a., Motion from Mayor Bennett regarding Community Inclusion, while we are glad that the Mayor is looking for expertise on actions the City should take to promote diversity from the Human Rights Commission, it appears to us that this is Mayor Bennett's attempt to avoid outright denouncing white supremacy and declaring that there is no place for hate in Salem. This comes after months of public outcry against the white supremacist groups who continue to invade our town with the intent to harm and terrorize community members and recently state legislators. It also comes after months of blatant police repression of and violence against, BLM and anti-police brutality protestestors, while white supremacist groups recieve nowhere near the same level of protest repression and retaliory police violence. Enough is enough. The Council must denounce white supremacy and racism, and we support the motion by Councilor Leung (agenda item 5.b.). We thank Councilor Leung for her leadership and for continuing to stand against hate in our community!

With respect to agenda item 6.f., Sheltering in Cascades Gateway Park and Wallace Marine Park, we continue to advocate that the city have enough available housing and shelter for all the houseless community members living in the parks and other public spaces within the city limits before ending the moratorium on public camping. It is clear from the Safe Park Camping Unwind Plan that the city and its partners will not be able to meet this need before the moratorium ends in June. Funding these needs should be a budgetary priority in the Budget Committee's 5-year forecast and proposed FY 2022 budget. The COVID pandemic is continuing to add to the problem and the city needs to have the resources available to house people safely and meet their basic needs.

We also are concerned about the Jan 9th anti-mask "protest" at Winco and Trader Joe's in South Salem (Ward 3). This video taken by the anti-maskers shows some of what TJ's workers had to endure for about four hours: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-\\_1tPZLTpVM&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_1tPZLTpVM&feature=youtu.be). Trader Joe's management called Salem Police Department for assistance and SPD refused to respond. They stated that it was a compliance issue and suggested that management just "let the anti-maskers shop." It is unacceptable that these types of "protests" are allowed within the city limits while we are still in a growing health crisis. The city needs to find a way to protect workers and shoppers from harassment by people who feel that they are entitled to put the public at risk.

Gary Miller & Hollie Oakes-Miller  
Ward 5

**From:** [nadene@yatesguitar.com](mailto:nadene@yatesguitar.com)  
**To:** [Chuck Bennett](#); [citycouncil](#)  
**Subject:** We need a stronger motion about white supremacy in Salem!  
**Date:** Monday, January 11, 2021 1:11:22 PM

---

Dear Mayor Bennett and City Councilors,

I implore you to reconsider the language in the motion about diversity in our community. This isn't about supporting diversity. This is about calling out and condemning white supremacy in our city.

Salem is developing not just a national, but an international, reputation as a city that tolerates and even welcomes alt-right white supremacists and racists. Salem has been singled out for coverage on NPR, in the New York Times, the Washington Post, Newsweek, CNN, ABC, NBC, CBS and dozens of other news outlets. Is this how we want to be known?

Sandpoint and Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, have been permanently scarred by becoming strongholds for racists. They didn't act, and now their tourism has suffered, their downtown has suffered, their city budget has suffered, and their city has lost the richness and color of a more diverse population. Two beautiful cities have been given over to the reputation the Proud Boys and others have bestowed on them.

We need to call out white supremacy. It is here! It has terrorized our citizens, especially citizens of color. We need to take a strong stand. This is not a time for weak, watered-down language. Our new police chief has named "white supremacy" and called it out and denounced it. Salem City mayor and councilors should do the same.

We need to state publicly that hate is not welcome in Salem, and that we will not tolerate racist and white supremacist actions in our city. Please address the problem directly by calling it what it is, and then together we can take action on the many things that people of color have told us make them unsafe in our city.

Thank you,  
Nadene LeCheminant  
Salem

**From:** [Sharlee Blackwell](#)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#)  
**Subject:** Regarding motion on City Inclusion  
**Date:** Monday, January 11, 2021 3:22:38 PM

---

The community demands a clear message from the city council condemning white supremacists, white supremacy, and the treatment of our BIPOC neighbors. Over and over we are so g violence against bipoc in our streets.

Thus does not need a committee. It needs action.