

**STATEMENT ON VALUING, SUPPORTING, AND PROTECTING HISTORICALLY
MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES – DECEMBER 17, 2024**

WHEREAS, the County of Napa Board of Supervisors recognizes the long and storied past of our historically marginalized communities, including members of our immigrant, LGBTQIA+, and minority communities, who are local leaders in agriculture, tourism, education, business, healthcare, and other professions, and who are at the greatest risk of being subjected to acts of discrimination, oppression, and violence; and

WHEREAS, the members of these communities are integral to every aspect of our society; they are our friends, colleagues, and neighbors with whom we have built and continue to grow a thriving and inclusive Napa County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors remains dedicated to growing and protecting an inclusive community where all individuals, including the members of our historically marginalized communities, feel safe and secure and can access the resources they need without fear; the Board will navigate the path forward together with the members of these communities with trust, collaboration, and respect; and

WHEREAS, Napa County is built upon rich diversity, with residents identifying as Native American, Black, Hispanic, or Asian American Pacific Islander comprising 46 percent of the county's population and foreign-born residents comprising 22 percent of the county's total population; and

WHEREAS, the commitment of the Board of Supervisors to building and protecting this diverse community by renewing our commitment to individual and community empowerment, opportunity for employment, civic engagement, safety, and freedom from racism, discrimination, xenophobia, and hateful acts of violence, is fundamental to the vision of the Board of a vibrant and inclusive Napa County; and

WHEREAS, the Board particularly considers essential to the effective execution of basic local functions a relationship of trust between our immigrant community and our local agencies, including law enforcement and schools; and

WHEREAS, holding the health, well-being, and civil rights of all people as inalienable, regardless of ethnicity, gender, immigration status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or socio-economic status, through a dynamic and responsive process that respects our community's diversity by the provision of accessible services, language support, legal resources, and community engagement, is a shared value of every member of the Napa County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, we call upon all County of Napa leadership, including department heads and staff, to embrace this charge, and, together, we will face the future with resilience and unity in our shared vision of a community where all people have the opportunity to experience fulfilling lives leaning into what we know to be true in Napa County:

- We are stronger together.
- Our rich diversity is an asset.
- We all belong.
- Practicing kindness defines who we are.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the County of Napa strives to be a model for inclusion and equity for all populations, including immigrants, refugees, and other newcomers; we are committed to supporting the ongoing inclusion and long-term economic prosperity of newcomers, and to demonstrating the values of unity and acceptance.

Joelle Gallagher, Chair

Anne Cottrell, Vice Chair

Ryan Gregory, District 2

Alfredo Pedroza, District 4

Belia Ramos, District 5