



SUNOL CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL

A Letter to Our Community Regarding Diversity and Inclusion

During this extraordinary time, we should not remain silent. Let us be clear where Sunol needs to stand: racism is unacceptable. With our fellow Americans, we grieve for the many people who have been hurt and killed by racists actions, for their families and friends, and for their communities.

Sunol supports the ideals and goals of those who have assembled peaceably in recent weeks to educate the larger community about racism, to advocate against racism, and to seek justice for all. We support First Amendment rights that allow freedom of speech and peaceful protests.

Starting in early 2018, Sunol participated in Alameda County's "Stand Against Hate" campaign and created two posters to spread the message. At that time, many residents thought our town was far away from cultural racism and racist actions. Sunol's minority residents, however, have reported not feeling welcomed by our community. This goes against the spirit of who we are. We in Sunol pride ourselves on being a community that welcomes everyone who wants to live here and be a part of this very special place. Expressions of bias or prejudice, covertly or openly, are unacceptable in Sunol.

Leadership calls out broken systems and works to fix them. Leadership says we see you and we hear you wanting change for our community. Leadership promotes constructive dialogue and genuine engagement. Through our interactions with one another, we – as a community – can and will make our town a better place.

We call upon all Sunolians to be leaders and stand up to any acts of racism in our community and our institutions. We urge Sunolians to help their neighbors understand when the words they speak reflect cultural racism. The conversations may not be easy or comfortable, but let's work together to find meaningful ways to eliminate racism. May that collective work reflect the community we strive to be.

Sunol Citizens' Advisory Council

This letter was approved by the Sunol Citizens' Advisory Council at their July 15, 2020 Council meeting. The County of Alameda was requested to distribute via United States Postal Service to residents of Sunol. To review the July 15, 2020 Sunol CAC meeting please visit https://www.acgov.org/agenda_minutes_app/board/com_calendar/ag_min.jsp.