

## RESOLUTION 2018-05

### A RESOLUTION OF THE FLAGSTAFF CITY COUNCIL RELATING TO PRESIDENT TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 13767: DECLARING THE FLAGSTAFF CITY COUNCIL'S OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A BORDER WALL ALONG THE U.S. – MEXICO BORDER

#### RECITALS:

WHEREAS, immigration has been a part of this country's history since its inception and this country has thrived as a result of the many achievements and contributions of immigrants; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that there are 325,000 undocumented immigrants living in Arizona and 11.4 million living in the United States total, who contribute economic, entrepreneurial and cultural value to our community, the state and nation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Flagstaff and its Council champion the core values of inclusiveness and tolerance, and welcome everyone who seeks to realize their dreams and build their families in the City, regardless of national origin or immigration status; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration has proposed through Executive Order 13767 to build a wall along the entire U.S.-Mexico border and dramatically increase militarization of the border region; and

WHEREAS, the wall would be a huge financial burden to taxpayers with an estimated cost of at least \$25 billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, the U.S.-Mexico border is now more secure than it has ever been, apprehensions in the border region are at historic lows, and border communities are among the safest in the entire United States; and

WHEREAS, the existing border wall is frequently breached and circumvented, knocked down in floods, requires enormous maintenance costs resulting in hundreds of millions of dollars per year in further financial burden to U.S. taxpayers, and remains the most expensive and least effective means of securing the border according to many security experts; and

WHEREAS, the existing border wall and militarization have created a human rights crisis in the border region that has caused significant social, cultural, and economic harm to border communities and resulted in more than 6,000 migrant deaths in the borderlands, the majority of which have occurred in Arizona; and

WHEREAS, advocating for and supporting actions that lead to the advancement of social and environmental justice for the Indigenous Community is a City Council goal; and

WHEREAS, the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), and the Inter Tribal Association of Arizona have all adopted resolutions opposing the construction of a border wall on tribal lands without the consent of the affected tribes, finding that a continuous, physical wall on the border would divide historic tribal lands and communities, prevent tribal members from making traditional crossings, injure endangered and culturally

significant plants, and disturb and destroy tribal archaeological, sacred sites, and human remains; and

WHEREAS, the existing border wall and fencing has caused substantial environmental damage, including catastrophic floods, erosion, degradation of public lands and destruction of critically important wildlife habitat, and threatens to harm more than 100 species in the border region, including dozens of endangered species such as jaguar and ocelot, and these and other environmental harms would be exacerbated by construction of more border wall; and

WHEREAS, more than three dozen laws were waived to facilitate construction of the existing border wall, which precluded review and analysis of impacts to environmental and archaeological resources on the border, including Native American sacred sites, protected public lands, wildlife, endangered species, stream courses, etc.; and

WHEREAS, a border wall is an offensive and damaging symbol of fear and division that will increase tensions with Mexico, one of the United States' largest trading partners and a neighbor with which the community of Flagstaff is linked culturally and economically; and

WHEREAS, the border wall is an affront to the City's core values of inclusiveness and tolerance, and a threat to the economic and cultural vitality of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Flagstaff does not wish to be associated with any company that participates in the design, construction, or maintenance of the border wall in any way, and to this end the Mayor and Council intend to require the disclosure by companies of their involvement with the border wall prior to City investment in or procurement of services from those companies; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Flagstaff desires to publicly declare its opposition to Executive Order 13767 and the proposed construction of a continuous wall or other physical barrier along the U.S.–Mexico border:


**ENACTMENTS:**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF FLAGSTAFF AS FOLLOWS:**

**THAT** the Flagstaff City Council denounces and opposes Executive Order 13767 and all associated actions calling for the construction of a wall or continuous physical barrier along the U.S. – Mexico border.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Flagstaff City Council expresses its intent to divest from all companies involved in the design, building, or financing of the border wall.


**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Flagstaff this 16th day of January, 2018.

  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
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CITY ATTORNEY For