

## FRAMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

ORDER NO. 2019-013  
REQUEST OF THE COUNCILOR SHEPARD

UPON THE REQUEST OF COUNCILOR SHEPARD, THE CITY OF FRAMINGHAM, THROUGH THE FRAMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL, IT IS SO ORDERED:

That the City Council shall establish a Task Force to review the creation of a Welcoming Immigrant Ordinance or similar document with the following member composition:

- ❖ Mayor (Chair)
- ❖ Three (3) City Councilors appointed by the Chair of the City Council
- ❖ One (1) Member from the Framingham School Committee, appointed by the School Committee Chair
- ❖ One (1) Member from the Framingham Police Department, appointed by the Chief of Police
- ❖ Two (2) Members from the community, appointed by the Mayor
- ❖ One (1) Member from MetroWest Legal Services

YEAS: Cannon, Giombetti, Grove, King, Richardson, Shepard, Sisitsky, Steiner, Tully Stoll

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Rossi, Torres

PASSED IN COUNCIL: FEBRUARY 19, 2019

It was further voted to adopt a Resolution relative to the need for such a Task Force:

WHEREAS, Framingham has a very diverse population including a large percentage of immigrants categorized as foreign-born including both documented and undocumented individuals;

WHEREAS, this immigrant population adds \$8.5 billion to the MetroWest and Milford-area economies and fills jobs that range from entry-level service positions to highly skilled medical professionals, engineers and research scientists. In the 5th Congressional District, covering Framingham, Natick, Ashland, Holliston, Southborough, Wayland and Sudbury, 165,581 immigrant residents pay \$1.9 billion in taxes each year;

WHEREAS, 85% of the businesses in Downtown Framingham are owned by immigrant entrepreneurs who greatly contribute to the city's economy;

WHEREAS, immigrants often experience unique stresses, prejudice, and constant fear of family separation due to anti-immigration policies enforced by the federal government including deportation;



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WHEREAS, many Framingham immigrant residents fear that calling 911, speaking to the police, or appearing in Framingham Court hearings will lead to separation from family members – especially their children – making these residents more vulnerable to domestic abuse, wage theft, and other crimes;

WHEREAS, in order to increase immigrant participation in the 2020 Census, we need to create a positive and safe environment to encourage higher rates of response to this national survey;

WHEREAS, in the past, the Town of Framingham approved resolutions to address these issues and because we are now a city, it is imperative that we adopt a clear immigrant policy that can continue to build trust between immigrants, the City administration and City departments;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Framingham City Council approves the formation of a Task Force responsible for writing a Framingham Welcoming Immigrants Ordinance that reflects the needs of our population, with the following composition:

- ❖ Mayor (Chair)
- ❖ Three (3) City Councilors appointed by the Chair of the City Council
- ❖ One (1) Member from the Framingham School Committee, appointed by the School Committee Chair
- ❖ One (1) Member from the Framingham Police Department, appointed by the Chief of Police
- ❖ Two (2) Members from the community, appointed by the Mayor
- ❖ One (1) Member from MetroWest Legal Services

YEAS: Cannon, Giombetti, Grove, King, Richardson, Shepard, Sisitsky, Steiner, Tully Stoll

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Rossi, Torres

PASSED IN COUNCIL: FEBUARY 19, 2019

A True Record, Attest:

02/25/2019  
Date Approved  
Lisa A. Ferguson  
Lisa A. Ferguson, City Clerk

3/11/19  
Date Approved  
Yvonne M. Spicer  
Yvonne M. Spicer, Mayor