A RESOLUTION URGING ACTION REGARDING SOCIAL INJUSTICE

WHEREAS, the recent killings of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and many similar cases in the recent and more distant past, have again exposed and brought to the forefront of public attention the deeply rooted social injustice being suffered by black Americans, and

WHEREAS, these injustices have led to a range of long-term negative effects for black Americans as individuals and as a race within America, including, but not limited to, inequal opportunity for education, social barriers to economic advancement, disproportionate prosecution, conviction and punishment for criminal and civil offenses, and many more, and

WHEREAS, recognition of injustice being done to a particular group necessarily recalls injustices done to other groups throughout our history, and

WHEREAS, Tucker was founded as a community diverse in every demographic definition and measurement, and

WHEREAS, the People of Tucker aspire to the ideals expressed in America's founding documents, and expect themselves, their neighbors and their fellow citizens to endeavor to live out those same ideals, and

WHEREAS, the People of Tucker recognize the long, substantive progress made since the end of legalized slavery in proactive and ongoing changes in the law to remove racism and other forms of social injustice from our institutions of all kinds, and

WHEREAS, the People of Tucker recognize that the insidious sort of social injustice that springs from the hearts and minds of too many individuals requires further effort on the part of every individual to overcome it, and

WHEREAS, the People of Tucker recognize that the ultimate solution and end to these social injustices lies within each individual, and relies on each individual to both live out those ideals and to encourage others to personally endeavor to do the same, and

WHEREAS, the People of Tucker also recognize that legislative action plays an indispensable part in ensuring justice for all, and

WHEREAS, the People of Tucker recognize that it is the proper role of the federal and state legislatures to consider and enact legislation for the establishment of criminal and civil laws and to provide for their enforcement to be equally applied to all citizens, and

WHEREAS, the People of Tucker recognize it is a difficult challenge to clearly discern the many motivations that can enter into the violation of valid laws and to prove those motivations to a

standard punishable by law, and that such an attempt might well be misused, manipulated and politicized, and

WHEREAS, the People of Tucker recognize that there are cases wherein the motivation for violation of criminal and civil laws can in fact be attributed to malice or malevolence toward the victim based on the victim's inherent characteristics, and

WHEREAS, the People of Tucker recognize that crimes motivated or exacerbated by such malice and malevolence are more injurious than violations not so motivated, and that these injuries extend to society at large,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of Tucker, on behalf of the People of Tucker that

The United States Congress and the Georgia General Assembly, in their proper roles as legislators and lawmakers, are hereby urged to enact, strengthen and clarify laws regarding crimes and civil acts, and to add substantial punishment in the form of imprisonment, monetary fines, probations, restitution or other means, in any case where the violation of such laws can be proven to an acceptable legal standard to have been motivated by malice or malevolence toward the victim based on the victim's inherent characteristics, whether actual or perceived, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the People of Tucker, and all who benefit from Tucker's many advantages, are hereby urged to search their consciences as to any thoughts, prejudices and actions, however conscious or unconscious they may be, for their negative effect on their neighbors and fellow citizens, with a sincere desire for changing such thoughts, prejudices and actions for the betterment of themselves and of those who have long suffered from social injustice.

SO RESOLVED, this the 8th Day of May, 2020

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Frank Auman, Mayor

Bonnie Warne, City Clerk

(seal)