



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – September 7, 2016 Agenda Item 2

Voting Session

Resolution Supporting the Unity in the Community Initiative

Recommended Council Action

Adopt the resolution.

Context with Key Issues

Meaghan Murphy, co-owner of Capital City Cheesecake, approached Mayor Kate Stewart and Takoma Park Police Captain Tyrone Collington with the idea of hosting an event to bring together police officers and residents in our community, particularly young people. The result of their conversations is the Unity in the Community Initiative.

The kick-off event for the Initiative will be a block party at Capital City Cheesecake on Sunday, September 25, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. The resolution supports the Initiative and promotes the kick-off event.

Council Priority

Livable Community for All; Engaged, Responsive, and Service Oriented Government

Environmental Impact of Action

N/A

Fiscal Impact of Action

N/A

Attachments and Links

- Resolution Supporting the Unity in the Community Initiative
- Unity in the Community flyer

Introduced by:

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

**RESOLUTION 2016-
SUPPORTING THE UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE**

WHEREAS, given the backdrop of what is happening around the country, Takoma Park is not immune to the feelings of frustration, sadness, and anger when we witness violence and injustice taking place; and

WHEREAS, in particular, young people of color in our community are affected by these events that are shaping their childhoods, whom they trust, and how they interact with each other, police officers, and the world; and

WHEREAS, Meaghan Murphy, co-owner of Capital City Cheesecake, approached Mayor Kate Stewart and Takoma Park Police Captain Tyrone Collington with the idea of hosting an event to bring together our police officers and residents in our community, particularly young people; and

WHEREAS, that idea has grown into the Unity in the Community initiative, created to rally members of the Takoma Park community to take proactive steps to start conversations and establish partnerships of trust through relationship-building events to unite our police officers and the community; and

WHEREAS, the kickoff event will be a block party at Capital City Cheesecake, on September 25 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park will be a partner with the community in this effort.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND expresses its thanks to Meaghan Murphy for creating the idea and offering Capital City Cheesecake as the location for the first Unity in the Community event; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Council encourages residents to participate in this event, volunteer, lend services, and join together to organize other Unity in the Community events throughout the year

Adopted this _____, 2016.

ATTEST:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk



Unity in the Community #commUNITY

“Change is not for the faint of heart. Change requires tenacity, respect, trust and a willingness to listen and learn. Respect for those impacted by the change and trust that both the leader and the led are working together for the good of the organization.” (author unknown)

Initiative:

Unity in the Community is an initiative started by Meaghan Murphy, co-owner of Capital City Cheesecake, Mayor Kate Stewart and Captain Tyrone Collington of Takoma Park that focuses on **Community Policing**.

Background:

Meaghan Murphy, co-owner of Capital City Cheesecake, approached Takoma Park’s Mayor Kate Stewart and Captain Tyrone Collington of the Takoma Park Police Department with the idea of doing an event at Capital City Cheesecake to bring together police officers in our community and residents, particularly young people. Given the backdrop of what is happening around the country, we understand Takoma Park is not immune to the feelings of frustration, sadness, and anger when we witness the violence and injustice taking place in our country. In particular, the young people of color in our community are affected by these events that are shaping their childhoods, who they trust, and how they interact with each other, police officers, and the world.

From what began as a conversation between Meaghan, Mayor Stewart and Captain Collington has now evolved into a plan of action called “*Unity in the Community*.”

Initiative Goals:

The initiative was created as a plan of action to build upon the continuation of community responses throughout the nation to unite local police departments with their community into one collective voice. The initiative is a proactive step Takoma Park is taking to start conversations through forums, establish partnerships of trust through relationship-building events and create resolutions with our local government to secure community safety.

Join the Initiative:

For this to happen and *Unity in the Community* to be a success, we need people to join us! Attend, volunteer, or lend your services.

Initiative Kick Off Party:

Event: Neighborhood Block Party
Date: September 25, 2016
Location: Capital City Cheesecake, 7071 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912
Time: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Please contact Meaghan Murphy for more information on how you can participate - meaghan@cccheesecake.com