



CITY OF LA VERNE CITY HALL

3660 "D" Street, La Verne, California 91750-3599
www.cityoflaverne.org

December 11, 2023

Open Letter to the La Verne Community Regarding Hate

As we approach the holiday season, many people of diverse religious and ethnic backgrounds celebrate their customs and share goodwill. It is a time to reflect upon our relationships and our acceptance of what should be considered shared opportunities. As the Mayor and long-term resident of our family-focused and welcoming La Verne community, I share my thoughts with you.

Across the world, there are instances of hate and violence targeting individuals based on their race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or any other protected characteristic. Our community is, and should continue to be an example of unity, diversity, inclusion and belonging, and I want to make it unequivocally clear that hate has no place in the City of La Verne. I know the full City Council shares this sentiment.

We are a community that thrives on respect, understanding, and compassion for one another. Regardless of our differences in background, beliefs, or lifestyles, we always come together to celebrate the strength that lies in our diversity. A hate crime is not just an attack on an individual; it is an assault on the principles that bind us together. It is an affront to the values we hold dear—values that define us as a community. I stand firm in my opposition to any form of discrimination, bigotry, or violence that seeks to tear us apart.

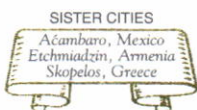
In times like these, in which we are witness to events across the world and at home, it becomes imperative for us to reaffirm our commitment to fostering an environment where everyone feels safe, valued, and respected. I encourage each and every one of you to be vigilant, to report any incidents that go against the spirit of inclusivity that defines us, and to stand up against hatred in all its forms.

Let us, as a united and caring community, send a clear message that we are stronger together and that love and understanding will always triumph over hate. Remember, diversity is our strength, and unity is our power. Let us stand together, unwavering in our commitment to our community that exemplifies love, understanding, and acceptance.

Thank you for your continued support to create a more united, and more resilient, community that prioritizes inclusivity and accepts differences as opportunities for growth.

Sincerely,

Tim Hepburn
City of La Verne Mayor



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