

*The Board of Supervisors of
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2022/73

**ADOPTING A RESOLUTION REGARDING BEST PRACTICES FOR CIVILITY AND CIVIL DISCOURSE IN
PUBLIC MEETINGS**

WHEREAS, We the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, desire to encourage civility and civil discourse in our meetings and to encourage County elected officers, staff and advisory bodies to follow best practices for civility and civil discourse at their meetings, and

WHEREAS, Best practices for fostering civility and civil discourse include:

- 1) respecting the right of all people to hold different opinions; and
- 2) avoiding rhetoric intended to humiliate, malign, or question the motivation of those whose opinions are different from ours; and
- 3) striving to understand differing perspectives; and
- 4) choosing words carefully and avoiding personal attacks; and
- 5) speaking truthfully without accusation and avoiding distortion of facts; and
- 6) speaking out against violence, prejudice, and incivility should they occur in our meetings, while also recognizing First Amendment rights, including the public's right to criticize programs, procedures, policies or services of the County or the acts or omissions of the County's Board of Supervisors, elected officials, advisory bodies, and staff; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Supervisors desires to build a civil political community in which each person is respected, and spirited public and political debate is aimed at the betterment of Contra Costa County and its people and not at the disparagement of those with whom we may disagree.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and all County elected officers, advisory bodies and staff shall endeavor to adhere to and promote the best practices for civility and civil discourse in conducting business at all public meetings.

KAREN MITCHOFF

Chair, District IV Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA

District I Supervisor

CANDACE ANDERSEN

District II Supervisor

DIANE BURGIS

District III Supervisor

FEDERAL D. GLOVER

District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: March 22, 2022

Monica Nino, County Administrator

By: _____, Deputy