

Flags and Banner Policy and Request for LGBTQ Pride Flag Raising



June 9, 2020

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED POLICY:

- The United States Flag and the State of California flag shall be displayed in accordance with Federal and State laws and regulations.
- The City Manager is authorized to order that the United States Flag, California State Flag and any commemorative and ceremonial flags or banners on display be lowered to half-staff by the order of the President of the United States, or by the Governor of the State of California.

Commemorative or Ceremonial Flags and Banners:

- May only be displayed on a designated City Flag flagpole located at a San Bruno city facility.
- Commemorative flags shall be displayed for a period of time authorized by resolution of the City Council.
- The City will not display a commemorative or ceremonial flag or banner based on a request from a third party, unless approved by a City Council resolution.

- **The City Clerk's Office received a request from San Mateo County LGBTQ Commissioner Krystle Cansino on April 28, 2020.**
- **The request was for the City of San Bruno to raise the LGBTQ Rainbow Flag for the month of June and for a Pride Month Proclamation**

On behalf of the [LGBTQ Commission of San Mateo County](#), I am writing to ask for your support of the LGBTQ community in San Bruno during Pride Month (June 2020). The support that we ask for and the suggestions we provide to you are intended to bring visibility to the forefront of your city for your LGBTQ residents. This visibility and support allows your LGBTQ residents to know that they are seen and that they are important. During this time of social distancing, these simple acts of visibility create a deeper sense of connection and inclusion for everyone in the community.

We recommend the following actions that your city can implement to support the LGBTQ residents of San Bruno during Pride Month:

- **Raise the LGBTQ Rainbow Flag for the month of June**
The LGBTQ Rainbow Flag has been part of the LGBTQ movement since 1978, designed by Gilbert Baker at the request of Harvey Milk (the first openly gay man to be elected to public office in the United States). The LGBTQ community and allies use the Rainbow Flag as an outward symbol of their identity or support. **By raising the LGBTQ Rainbow Flag, this highlights to your residents that San Bruno is a leader in the fight for equal rights, and that you will continue to push to not only protect the rights of everyone in San Bruno, but to expand those rights.**
- **Pride Month Proclamation**
Another key step your city can take to support LGBTQ residents is to issue a proclamation to declare June 2020 as Pride Month for San Bruno. A template proclamation can be found [here](#). We have also attached the formal proclamation issued by San Mateo County.

Council Options:

- Designate a city-owned flagpole for the display of commemorative or ceremonial flags and banners
- Adopt a Resolution:
 - Approving a Council Policy Regarding the Display of Commemorative and Ceremonial Flags and Banners at City Facilities; and
 - Authorizing the Display of the LGBTQ Pride Flag at a Designated San Bruno City Facility to Commemorate the LGBTQ Pride Month

Council Alternative Options:

- Do not adopt the flag policy resolution
- Do not authorize the display of the LGBTQ Pride Flag for the duration of June 2020

