



## ***PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL***

**WHEREAS**, all representatives of the City of Fircrest, including the City Council and the Police Chief, are deeply saddened by the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and other unarmed Black people at the hands of those who are sworn to protect; and

**WHEREAS**, these killings symbolize long-standing institutional racism in American society that inflicts trauma on people of color, who experience fear, violence and discrimination in ways that too many of us have failed to see or understand; and

**WHEREAS**, Black people and other people of color face structural barriers when it comes to securing quality housing, health care, employment, and education, which fuels the inequities and injustices; and

**WHEREAS**, we cannot be silent in the face of this moral crisis that threatens our democracy and our society; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fircrest Police Department has a respected tradition of community policing and requires rigorous training of its officers, including in the areas of diversity, crisis intervention, de-escalation and force minimization; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fircrest Police Department is preparing to implement Force Investigation Team protocols, which will include citizen oversight; and

**WHEREAS**, we know these actions are not enough and that more must be done; and

**WHEREAS**, Black people and other people of color need those of us with privilege and power to take the lead and fight for an equitable future;

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS, of the City of Fircrest, do hereby proclaim** our intention to listen, to learn, to be willing to experience discomfort, to collaborate with community partners, and to protect the Constitutional and human rights of every person who lives, works and visits our city.

Passed this 9th day of June 2020

Hunter T. George, Mayor