



NAACP Corvallis/Albany Area Branch #1118

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"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." -- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 15, 2016

Ms. Carla Holzworth
Recorder, City of Corvallis
501 SW Madison Avenue
Corvallis, Oregon 97339
Submitted via email carla.holzworth@corvallisoregon.gov

Dear Ms. Holzworth:

The Corvallis branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) endorses the draft resolution by Councilor Bill Glassmire to reaffirm Corvallis as a welcoming city to all people, with special attention now to Muslims and Arabs.

About 1,500 Muslims (permanent residents, international students, accompanying spouses and children) live in Corvallis. Some of them have experienced incidents of prejudice or even violence here. For example, as Mayor Traber and city councilors may have been made aware, in November at the Saturday market, a Muslim OSU student wearing the hijab was assaulted physically and verbally by a white person. Reportedly, many onlookers witnessed the incident but did nothing.

One objective of the NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of all citizens. We call on city officials to lead residents in rejecting and resisting Islamophobia and anti-Arab sentiment.

This letter is submitted as public comment, to be attached to the minutes of the City Council meeting of Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

Warm regards,

Faith Reidenbach
Corvallis Branch Secretary