

## CONDEMNING HINDUPHOBIA

*WHEREAS*, Fremont has welcomed Hindus from across the world and given them freedom to practice Hinduism; and

*WHEREAS*, Fremont has greatly benefited from Hindu Americans through the Vedanta philosophy, Ayurvedic medicine, classical Indian art, dance, music, meditation, yoga, literature; and

*WHEREAS*, Fremont Hindu temples, organizations, and individuals actively engage in seva (selfless service), through charity, public service, and free social services; and

*WHEREAS*, Hindu Americans have contributed to Fremont's economic vitality, growth, and wellbeing, in business, law, politics, information technology, medicine, and science; and

*WHEREAS*, despite their positive contributions, Hindu Americans have been the targets of bullying, discrimination, hate speech, harassment, and bias-motivated crimes; and

*WHEREAS*, Hinduphobia is "a set of antagonistic, destructive, and derogatory attitudes and behaviors towards Sanatana Dharma (Hinduism) and Hindus that may manifest as prejudice, fear, or hatred"; and

*WHEREAS*, one out of three Hindu American students reported that they have been bullied in school for their religious beliefs; and

*WHEREAS*, according to FBI statistics, anti-Hindu hate crimes are on the rise; and

*WHEREAS*, the people of Fremont actively dedicate themselves to the principles of human rights, individual freedom, equal protection under the laws of a just and democratic society, and to remain vigilant against hatred and prosecution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Fremont does hereby recognize Hindu American Foundation for their advocacy in educating the public about Hindu and Hinduism, and their support for ensuring the well-being of all people and the planet.