

Resolution Supporting Reparations for Black Carrboro

WHEREAS, Black people have been unjustly enslaved, segregated and incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, Black people have been systematically excluded from historic and present private economic development and community investments and, therefore, Black-owned businesses have not received the benefits of these investments; and

WHEREAS, Black people have been denied housing through racist practices in the private real estate market, including redlining, steering, denial of mortgages and gentrification; and

WHEREAS, Black people have been consistently impoverished by discriminatory wages and experience disproportionate unemployment rates and reduced job opportunities, and

WHEREAS, Black people have been segregated from mainstream education and have experienced the denial of education through admission, retention and graduation rates of every level of education along with discriminatory disciplinary practices; and

WHEREAS, Black people, in the past and the present, receive inadequate and sometimes detrimental healthcare as can be seen in morbidity/mortality rates that result from the generational trauma of systemic racism and discriminatory treatment by medical professionals such as involuntary sterilization, denial of adequate testing and denial of preventative procedures; and

WHEREAS, Black people have been unjustly targeted by law enforcement and criminal justice procedures; and

WHEREAS, systemic racism was created centuries ago and will take time to dismantle; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro affirms the dignity and humanity of each of our residents, and the right of every resident to be free from discrimination and harm due to their race; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro is committed to working to eliminate racial bias and racial disparity, and create a more just and equitable world.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF CARRBORO:

1. Apologizes and makes amends for (what would later be named) Carrboro's participation in and sanctioning of the Enslavement of Black People.
2. Apologizes and makes amends for its enforcement of segregation and its accompanying discriminatory practices.
3. Seek to establish, within a year, a new commission that will be empowered to make short, medium and long term recommendations that will make significant progress toward repairing the damage caused by public and private systemic racism.

4. Directs the Town Manager to give, at a minimum, a bi-annual update to the Town Council on the progress of work performed as it relates to this resolution.
5. Calls on the state of North Carolina to begin policy making and enact a program to allocate funding for reparations to governments at the local level.
6. Calls on the federal government to work toward the immediate enactment of the following policies:
 - a. A program to provide reparations to the descendants of enslaved Africans sufficient to eliminate the racial wealth gap.
 - b. A program to provide a universal basic income to all citizens sufficient to meet each person's basic needs.
 - c. A program to provide a guaranteed federal or federally-funded living-wage job to all citizens.
 - d. An increase in the federal minimum wage to \$15/hr. or higher, with regular increases to account for increases in cost of living and inflation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Carrboro requests that the Town Clerk send copies of this resolution to N.C. House Speaker Tim Moore, N.C. Senate President Pro Tempore Phil Berger, U.S. Rep. David Price, U.S. Senator Thom Tillis, and U.S. Senator Richard Burr.

This is the 20th day of October, 2020.