

Adopted: October 1, 2019

**CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER, MARYLAND  
RESOLUTION 10-2019**

**Resolution Establishing the City of Mount Rainier  
Census Complete Count Committee**

**Councilmember: Celina Benitez**

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution of the United States of America requires that an enumeration or Census be conducted every ten years and the next Census is to be conducted in the year 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is vitally important to the City of Mount Rainier to ensure that all persons living in the City are correctly and completely accounted for in the 2020 Census and that historically undercounted segments of the residents of the City are included in the planning and preparation of the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of the Census has provided guidelines for the active participation of all sectors of the community through the Census 2020 Complete Count Committee Program; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of the Census is soliciting the active participation of local government officials to promote the Census to residents of the local jurisdictions in an effort to improve the completeness of the count, to improve the differential completeness among population groups and areas, and decrease the cost of the Census; and

WHEREAS, the Mount Rainier Census CCC will work in collaboration with the Prince Georges, Maryland and Park and Planning CCC; and

WHEREAS, participating in the Census is a demonstration of our collective power. If we are not fully counted in the 2020 Census, Congress, state legislatures and city councils risk being drawn into districts that do not fairly reflect our communities or our interests and it will be harder to achieve the change we need; and

WHEREAS, complete Census participation will ensure that our community receives its fair share of federal funds for programs like Medicaid, SNAP, Head Start, unemployment benefits, Section 8 housing vouchers, programs for seniors and disabled veterans, and school lunch programs; and

WHEREAS, The City of Mount Rainier opposed the citizenship question being added to the Census and fully understand that the proposed addition of the citizenship question has created mistrust in the segments of our community that is historically underrepresented in Census responses; because of

this mistrust, it is critical to have Census ambassadors that are trusted members of the community to encourage neighbors to be counted; and

WHEREAS; The City of Mount Rainier is proud of the diversity in our community and believes that every individual in society matters and should be counted.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Mount Rainier shall form a Complete Count Committee to work collaboratively on a campaign to mobilize Mount Rainier residents to be counted in Census 2020; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Complete Count Committee shall include individuals from historically underrepresented demographic groups; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Complete Count Committee shall work in collaboration with organizations from the Mount Rainier government such as city committees and with community and faith-based organizations, the media, schools, businesses, labor organizations, philanthropic institutions, and other individuals and organizations that work with or are familiar with historically undercounted demographic groups; and be it further

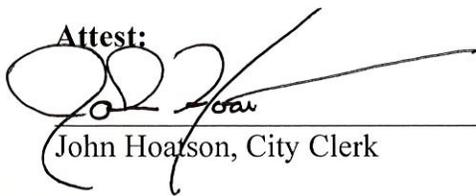
RESOLVED, THAT the members of the Complete Count Committee shall also be known as Census Ambassadors and shall represent the full geographic, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, racial, ethnic and age diversity of the City of Mount Rainier; and be it further

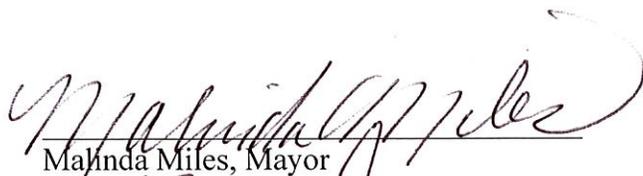
RESOLVED, that the City of Mount Rainier shall establish a Working Group with representatives of Ward 1 and Ward 2 that will meet on a regular basis to develop and implement strategies to conduct Census 2020 outreach and mobilization; and be it further

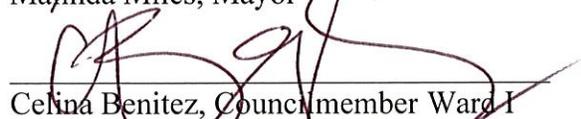
RESOLVED, that every eight years the Complete Count Committee will be reactivated to start preparing for the upcoming Census; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council promptly shall consider the appropriation of \$3,000.00 for the Census 2020 outreach, assistance and mobilization activities set forth in this Resolution.

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Hoatson, City Clerk

  
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Malinda Miles, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Celina Benitez, Councilmember Ward I

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Cecil, Councilmember Ward II

  
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Luke Chesek, Councilmember Ward I

  
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Bryan Knedler, Councilmember Ward II