

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: March 17, 2025

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: W. Patrick Pate, City Manager

Council Action Requested:

Resolution Pledging to Practice and Promote Civility in the City of Winston-Salem

Strategic Focus Area: Service Excellence

Strategic Objective: No

Strategic Plan Action Item: No

Key Work Item: No



Summary of Information:

NCLM's Commit to Civility program promotes civility in local government and recognizes those governing boards that dedicate themselves to this approach. It engages and challenges municipal officials to embrace civility throughout the course of their work within their communities. This program equips leaders with the information and skills needed to maintain composure and move through emotionally charged situations with a respectful and solutions-oriented approach.

The objectives of the program are as follows; Civility is about disagreeing without disrespect, seeking common ground as a starting point for dialogue about differences, listening past one's preconceptions, and teaching others to do the same. Civility is the hard work of staying present even with those with deep-rooted and fierce disagreements. Civility is inherently political, not only because it's a prerequisite for civic action, but because it's about negotiating interpersonal power such that everyone's voice is heard.

The North Carolina League of Municipalities will present municipalities with a certificate at the 2025 CityVision conference for those that have had at least 75% of the board attend the two-hour Commit to Civility training, sign an individual pledge, and submit a signed copy of the Resolution.

Committee Action:

Committee _____ **Action** _____

For _____ **Against** _____

Remarks: _____