



CITY OF BELFAST

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Belfast Mayor and City Council
Honorable Mayor, Eric Sanders
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We, the Mayor and Councilors for the City of Belfast, celebrate difference, diversity and individuality among residents and visitors alike. Our city has always been - and always will be - a community that welcomes all.

The City of Belfast has long traditions of vibrant free speech and peaceful protest. For decades, citizens have stood on our sidewalks and in public spaces, bringing attention to closely held values and shining a light on important issues. These traditions are part of what makes Belfast the city that it is.

The First Amendment which protects our freedom of speech is an important part of the foundation upon which our country is built. It is a right that we hold dear for both ourselves and our constituents, no matter the belief, perspective, or opinion.

As much as we, the Mayor and Councilors for the City of Belfast, value our First Amendment rights, we also equally value civility. We are at a critical time in history, and civility in our country and in our community must be restored. While we will always respect an open exchange of ideas, we do not support rude behavior, ridicule, or lack of respect.

Civility enhances our capacity to consider different perspectives and encourages us to work together to build a brighter future for the City of Belfast and our region. Civility restores trust and helps build common ground.

We, the Mayor and Councilors for the City of Belfast, call for all residents and visitors within our city limits to enhance and restore all forms of civility to achieve a higher quality of public discourse. By doing this, locals and visitors alike can come to our City and support our merchants, dine in our restaurants, and enjoy time together with their families.