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Gary Christenson, Mayor

EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

WHEREAS, the American Public Health Association (APHA) has declared that racism is an "ongoing public health crisis that needs our attention now;" and

WHEREAS, racism is a threat to public health and safety, and is a paramount social determinant shaping access to the resources that create opportunities for health, including but not limited to housing, education, food security, health care access and employment, and

WHEREAS, structural and systemic racism, and the resulting health disparities more adversely affect the physical, mental, and overall health of persons of color; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the emergency nature of these pre-existing inequities caused by systemic racism and has reaffirmed that racism is a barrier to health equity in our community; and

WHEREAS, all areas of City government must recommit to addressing the impact that racism has on the lives of all of our residents and how it impacts the overall health of our City; and

WHEREAS, racial justice is the creation and proactive enforcement of policies, practices, attitudes and actions that produce equitable power, access, opportunity, treatment and outcomes for all people regardless of race; and

WHEREAS, the City of Malden is committed to creating and instituting changes in our policies and practices across our municipal departments and within our school system to address institutional racism and the impacts of racism on the social determinants of health; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; that Mayor Gary Christenson and the Malden Board Health Director Christopher Webb declare that racism is a public health crisis in the City of Malden, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; that the City and its departments will work to address the crisis through policy creation and system changes that work to dismantle the systemic racism that creates barriers to strong public health.

EFFECTIVE ON THIS 18th day of June 2020 in the City of Malden:



GARY CHRISTENSON
Mayor, City of Malden



Christopher Webb
Director, Malden Board of Health