

July 9, 2018

JULY 9, 2018 SPECIAL SESSION CANCELED

BLOOMINGTON, IL – Mayor Tari Renner recently announced the cancelation of the Special Session scheduled for July 9, 2018 at 5:30 pm to discuss and act on an Ordinance Recognizing the Importance of the Immigrant Community in the City of Bloomington. The Mayor is issuing the below statement and attached proclamation. Future Bloomington City Council meetings on this topic are not anticipated. Tonight's regular 7 pm City Council meeting will proceed as planned.

Mayor Tari Renner's Statement

"I remain committed to recognizing the importance of our immigrant population, however it is clear there is not support on the Council for the ordinance that was to be considered this evening. Therefore, I am canceling tonight's meeting.

Instead of adopting the proposed ordinance, I am recommending that the Chief of Police develop and widely disseminate detailed policies and procedures regarding BPD interactions with ICE. These policies and procedures should speak directly to the concerns of individuals who may fear reporting crimes. It is further recommended that the Public Safety and Community Relations Board assist in distributing the policies and procedures and in educating our residents about the facts with regard to BPD and ICE interactions. Data on BPD interactions with ICE can become part of the routine statistical reports of the department to the public.

I also call upon our faith communities and social justice organizations to educate our citizens about these policies and procedures, to serve as advocates for individuals when they report crimes, and to develop scenarios for supporting vulnerable members of our community. Through these activities, we engage fully with one another to build a community that is safe and without prejudice.

I am immediately issuing the attached proclamation, calling upon the people of Bloomington to join together to build a stronger, unified community. I firmly believe this embodies the spirit of our vibrant and diverse City."

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