

AMENDED RESOLUTION NO. 07 -17

By: Mary Gottesman, Steve Keyes, Tim Madison, Troy Markham, Deneese Owen

**A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE CITY OF BEXLEY
AS A WELCOMING COMMUNITY TO IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**

WHEREAS, all residents and visitors; including immigrants and refugees seeking new homes, safety, freedom, and opportunity; feel welcome, safe, and able to fully participate in and contribute to our City's economic and social life; and

WHEREAS, Bexley is a proudly diverse and welcoming community; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that the ancestors of most Bexley and American families once arrived here from a distant location, often fleeing oppression, hardship, and violence; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that foreign-born Bexley residents and visitors are vital to our community, bringing diverse perspectives and new ideas, starting and supporting businesses, attending school, working hard, and contributing to a cultural diversity that we value; and

WHEREAS, Bexley's success depends on policies to ensure that all Bexley residents and visitors feel welcome; and

WHEREAS, we honor the spirit of unity that brings neighbors together and makes Bexley a community where diverse people from around the world feel valued and want to put down roots; and

WHEREAS, by recognizing the contributions that are made by immigrants and refugees all people regardless of race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, or place of origin make to create a vibrant culture and a growing economy, we make Bexley more prosperous and more inclusive for all who visit or call it home; and

WHEREAS, community efforts that promote understanding and collaboration between native-born and foreign-born residents and visitors are crucial in encouraging and preserving our welcoming environment, and the declaration of such educates and illustrates our values and ideals to our children, our community, and to those outside of our community; and

WHEREAS, beyond this resolution, Bexley encourages business leadership, civic groups, government agencies, education and other community institutions in central Ohio and beyond to undertake their own initiatives in declaring similar ideals in order to respect and fulfill the vision of our local founders and our nation's founders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Bexley, County of Franklin, State of Ohio, that we will not waver in our commitment to the rights and well-being of all, and that we urge all residents of Bexley to do their part in reaching out to and welcoming all who live in and visit our City.

Passed 5/27, 2017



Tim Madison, President of Council

Attest: Bill Harvey, 2017
Bill Harvey, Clerk of Council

Approved: June 27, 2017


Ben Kessler, Mayor

First Reading: May 23, 2017

Second Reading: 6-13-17

Third Reading: 6-27-17

Passed 6-27-17