RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH GATE,
CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF AN ACCURATE
2020 CENSUS OF THE SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES REGION

WHEREAS, the U.S. Census Bureau is required by Article I, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution to conduct an accurate count of the population every ten years; and

WHEREAS, federal officials rely on census data to allocate billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities and to determine the fair reapportionment of congressional seats; and

WHEREAS, state and local officials use census data in redistricting processes to draw representative boundaries for federal, state and local districts and when making decisions about infrastructure, such as where to build new schools or roads; and

WHEREAS, other stakeholders also rely on census data when making decisions that affect local communities, such as entrepreneurs when deciding whether and where to start or relocate a business; and

WHEREAS, the decennial census is a huge undertaking that requires cross-sector collaboration and partnership in order to achieve a complete and accurate count; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Census Bureau is facing several challenges with the 2020 Census, which include declining response rates, technological change, the potential inclusion of a citizenship question, and fiscal constraints, thus support from local government is critical; and

WHEREAS, according to the County of Los Angeles, approximately 92% of all Census Block Groups in the Southeast Los Angeles Region are considered hard-to-count due to having a “Very High” or “High” Low Response Score; the United States Census Bureau’s Low Response Score (LRS) identifies communities whose characteristics predict low census participation; and the higher the LRS score, the less likely households are to respond to the survey; and

WHEREAS, the diversity of populations in the Southeast Los Angeles region means that there is a wide and complex range of regional barriers to census participation; and

WHEREAS, the cities in the Southeast Los Angeles region rely on federal financial resources to pay for vital services and programs on issues ranging from education to health to transportation; and
WHEREAS, the City of South Gate, in partnership with other local governments, the State, businesses, Southeast Los Angeles Collaborative and community organizations, is committed to ensuring every resident is counted in 2020; and

WHEREAS, a fair and accurate count on the 2020 Census will help ensure that Southeast Los Angeles residents are represented in our democracy and receive critical services and supports across education, crime prevention, health care, and transportation;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH GATE DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby recognizes the importance of the 2020 Census and will develop and adopt a plan of action ensuring a complete count of the residents of Southeast Los Angeles Region, which will include the following initiatives:

1. The creation of a formal partnership with philanthropic partners, community-based organizations, Southeast Los Angeles Collaborative, County of Los Angeles, State of California, and the U.S. Census Bureau.

2. The possibility of creating a Complete Count Committee composed of individuals and organizations from diverse sectors to work collaboratively on a campaign to mobilize South Gate residents to be counted in Census 2020.

3. The active participation of the City of South Gate in the Countywide Outreach Complete Count Committee to avoid duplication of efforts, identify gaps, and coordinate outreach.

4. To develop and implement strategies for each department to conduct Census 2020 outreach and mobilization.

5. The possibility for South Gate facilities to host Census Action Kiosks.

6. The potential of working with the County of Los Angeles to train and support residents to volunteer as goodwill ambassadors for the 2020 Census through, for example, staffing Census Action Kiosks.

7. The commitment to explore the possibility of creating a grant program for community-based or faith-based organizations in South Gate to conduct Census 2020 mobilization activities, and the presentation of a recommendation regarding such a program.

8. Consider the appropriation of funds necessary for the Census 2020 outreach, assistance and mobilization activities set forth in this Resolution as part of the Fiscal Year 2019/20 budget process.
SECTION 2. The City Council hereby appoints the Director of Community Development and his designee as the Census 2020 Coordinator to carry out the responsibilities for the 2020 outreach, assistance and mobilization activities set forth in this Resolution.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution which shall be effective upon its adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 9th day of April, 2019.

CITY OF SOUTH GATE:

ATTEST:

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk
(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Raul F. Salinas, City Attorney
STATE OF CALIFORNIA     )
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES   )  SS
CITY OF SOUTH GATE      )

I, Carmen Avalos, City Clerk of the City of South Gate, California, hereby certify that the whole number of Members of the City Council of said City is five; that Resolution No. 7853 was adopted by the City Council at their Regular Meeting held on April 9, 2019, by the following vote:

Ayes:    Council Members:   Morales, Diaz, Bernal, Davila, and Rios
Noes:    Council Members:   None
Absent:  Council Members:   None
Abstain: Council Members:   None

Witness my hand and the seal of said City on April 10, 2019.

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Carmen Avalos, City Clerk
City of South Gate, California