

ADOPTED BY THE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL

June 6, 2017

RESOLUTION NO. 22763

RELATING TO PRESIDENT TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 13767: DECLARING MAYOR AND COUNCIL'S OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A BORDER WALL ALONG THE U.S. – MEXICO BORDER; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council find that:

1. Tucson is a City of immigrants. Approximately 80,000 Tucson residents are foreign-born. Foreign-born Tucson residents make up more than 15% of the City's workforce and total economic output and serve as an economic and entrepreneurial engine for the City.
2. The City of Tucson and its Mayor and Council champion the core values of inclusiveness and tolerance, and welcome everyone who seeks to realize their dreams and build their families in the City, regardless of national origin or immigration status.
3. The U.S.-Mexico border region is a beautiful, diverse, and unique place where people and wildlife from north and south live side by side in relative peace and harmony among some of our continent's most cherished and spectacular landscapes.
4. The Trump administration has proposed through Executive Order 13767 to build a wall along the entire U.S.-Mexico border and dramatically increase militarization of the border region.
5. The U.S.-Mexico border is now more secure than it has ever been, apprehensions in the border region are at historic lows, and border communities are among the safest in the entire United States.

6. The tens of billions of dollars that would be spent to construct a border wall should be invested instead in health care, education, housing, repairing our nation's crumbling infrastructure, and other priorities that will provide such tangible benefits as alleviating poverty, increasing economic opportunity, and safeguarding the health and well-being of all Americans.

7. The existing border wall is frequently breached and circumvented, knocked down in floods, requires enormous maintenance costs resulting in hundreds of millions of dollars per year in further financial burden to U.S. taxpayers, and remains the most expensive and least effective means of securing the border according to many security experts.

8. The existing border wall and militarization have created a human rights crisis in the border region that has caused significant social, cultural, and economic harm to border communities and resulted in more than 6,000 migrant deaths in the borderlands.

9. In February, 2017, the Tohono O'Odham Legislative Council adopted Resolution 17-053 and the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) adopted Resolution #ECWS-17-002, opposing the construction of a border wall on tribal lands without the consent of the affected tribes, and finding that a continuous, physical wall on the border would:

- a) Further divide historic tribal lands and communities;
- b) Prevent tribal members from making traditional crossings for domestic, ceremonial, and religious purposes;
- c) Prevent wildlife from conducting migrations essential for survival and general life, health and existence;

- d) Injure endangered and culturally significant plants;
- e) Militarize the lands on the southern boundary; and
- f) Disturb or destroy tribal archaeological, sacred sites, and human remains.

10. The existing border wall and fencing has caused substantial environmental damage, including catastrophic floods, erosion, degradation of public lands and facilities, and destruction of critically important wildlife habitat, and threatens to harm more than 100 species in the border region, including dozens of rare and endangered species such as jaguar and ocelot, and these and other environmental harms would be exacerbated by construction of more border wall.

11. More than three dozen laws were waived to facilitate construction of the existing border wall, which precluded review and analysis of impacts to environmental and archaeological resources on the border, including Native American sacred sites, protected public lands, wildlife, endangered species, stream courses, etc.

12. A border wall is an offensive and damaging symbol of fear and division that will increase tensions with Mexico, one of the United States' largest trading partners and a neighbor with which communities such as Tucson in the border region are inextricably linked culturally, physically, and economically.

13. The border wall is an affront to the City's core values of inclusiveness and tolerance, and a threat to the economic and cultural vitality of the City, the integrity and stability of the City's communities, and the health and security of the City's residents.

14. City residents deserve to know how the City's public funds are being spent, and whether they are supporting individuals or entities involved in the construction or operation of the border wall, given its harmful impact on the City and its residents. To

this end, the Mayor and Council intend to require the disclosure by companies of their involvement with the border wall prior to City investment in those companies.

15. The City of Tucson does not wish to be associated with any company that participates in the design, construction, or financing of the border wall in any way.

16. The Mayor and Council of the City of Tucson desire to publicly declare its opposition to Executive Order 13767 and the proposed construction of a continuous wall or other physical barrier along the U.S.–Mexico border:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUCSON, ARIZONA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Mayor and Council denounce and oppose Executive Order 13767 and all associated actions calling for the construction of a wall or continuous physical barrier along the U.S. – Mexico border.

Section 2. The Mayor and Council calls for a comprehensive analysis of the cost, effectiveness, necessity, and consequences of U.S. border security policies, including the border wall.

Section 3. The Mayor and Council also opposes the continuing expenditure of federal funding directed to private, for-profit prisons for the detention and incarceration of immigrants, together with any efforts to expand the criminalization and detention of immigrants that results in increased profits to private prisons.

Section 4. The Mayor and Council hereby expresses its intent to identify all companies involved with the designing, building, or financing of the border wall, and its intent to divest, as soon as practicable, from those companies.

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the preservation of the peace, health and safety of the City of Tucson that this Resolution become immediately effective, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.


PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Tucson, Arizona, June 6, 2017.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



CITY ATTORNEY

REVIEWED BY:

CITY MANAGER

MR/dg
5/10/17