

May 30, 2020

To Our Burnsville Community, Friends and Visitors;

We offer our deepest sympathies to the Family of George Floyd. Like many of you, we have closely followed the heartbreaking death of George Floyd in Minneapolis this week. The impact of Mr. Floyd's death will resonate with the Twin Cities, Minnesota and the country for years to come. It is difficult to accurately describe emotions during times such as these. We watch with disbelief the action of a Minneapolis Police Officer that killed Mr. Floyd. The action stirs emotions of anger and demand justice. We are feeling an overwhelming sense of sadness and hopelessness for Mr. Floyd, his family, the Twin Cities and members of our local law enforcement.

The City of Burnsville has always been, and continues to be, committed to serving our entire community with dignity, respect and understanding. Although our public safety officers were not involved in this situation, we take this incident – and others like it – very seriously. We know that these kinds of acts can damage trust within our community, and we want to ensure everyone who lives, works and visits Burnsville that we are dedicated to our belief that **You Belong Here** and our number one priority is to insure your safety.

We have faith that officers in the Burnsville Police Department have established a quality culture and training program that values the sanctity of life without prejudice. Wearing the Burnsville badge carries a heavy responsibility to providing excellence through best practices in community policing, and our officers bear that responsibility with sincerity.

There will be tough times ahead. We do not shy away from the duty and challenge of retaining the trust that you place in us every day. We are honored that you have chosen to call Burnsville home for your families and businesses, and we will continue to make decisions that protect our community's wellbeing and safety.

Please join us in the days to come as we work together with our partners across the Twin Cities to peacefully heal in the wake of this week's tragedy. Do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have questions. We are here for you and we are listening.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth B. Kautz
Mayor