

ORDINANCE NO. 2033

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SAN RAFAEL AMENDING THE SAN RAFAEL MUNICIPAL CODE IN ITS ENTIRETY TO REPLACE GENDER-SPECIFIC LANGUAGE WITH GENDER-NEUTRAL LANGUAGE

WHEREAS, the San Rafael Municipal Code contains mostly masculine pronouns;
and

WHEREAS, all genders are created equal; and

WHEREAS, amending the San Rafael Municipal Code to include gender-neutral pronouns by eliminating any gender preference language within the San Rafael Municipal Code will promote equality.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN RAFAEL DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of San Rafael finds that all Recitals are true and correct and incorporate them herein by this reference.

SECTION 2. Gender-specific language reflected throughout the entire San Rafael Municipal Code, not including the City Charter, is hereby replaced with gender neutral language as grammatically appropriate and in a manner that does not change the legal meaning of any provision of the code.

SECTION 3. Each specifically gendered term identified in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein, and which is also found within the San Rafael Municipal Code, shall be replaced by a corresponding non-gendered term. Exhibit A is non-exhaustive and may be amended from time to time.

SECTION 4. Section 1.08.090 (Gender), Subsection 10.04.010(A) (Definitions) and Subsection 14.03.020(E) (Rules for construction of language) are hereby amended to read as follows. Additions are shown in underline, and deletions are shown in ~~strikethrough~~.

1.08.090 – Gender neutrality.

~~Any gender includes the other genders. Whenever a personal pronoun is used in the neutral gender, it shall be deemed to include the feminine and masculine also. “They/them” shall indicate a singular individual, unless the context indicates the contrary.~~

10.04.010 - Definitions.

A. In this chapter the singular number includes the plural and the plural the

singular, and the masculine gender includes the other genders. Whenever a personal pronoun is used in the neutral gender, it shall be deemed to include the feminine and masculine also. "They/them" shall indicate a singular individual, unless the context indicates the contrary.

14.03.020 - Rules for construction of language.

E. ~~References in the masculine and feminine genders are interchangeable.~~
Whenever a personal pronoun is used in the neutral gender, it shall be deemed to include the feminine and masculine also. "They/them" shall indicate a singular individual, unless the context indicates the contrary.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall be published once, in full or in summary form, before its final passage, in a newspaper of general circulation, published, and circulated in the City of San Rafael, and shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days after its final passage. If published in summary form, the summary shall also be published within fifteen (15) days after the adoption, together with the names of those Councilmembers voting for or against same, in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City of San Rafael, County of Marin, State of California.

THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE was first read and introduced at a regular meeting of the San Rafael City Council on the 5th day of February 2024, and was passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the San Rafael City Council on the 20th day of February 2024 by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Councilmembers:

NOES: Councilmembers:

ABSENT: Councilmembers:

KATE COLIN, Mayor

Attest:

LINDSAY LARA, City Clerk

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 2033

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SAN RAFAEL AMENDING THE SAN RAFAEL MUNICIPAL CODE IN ITS ENTIRETY TO REPLACE GENDER-SPECIFIC LANGUAGE WITH GENDER-NEUTRAL LANGUAGE

This Summary concerns a proposed Ordinance of the City Council of the City of San Rafael, designated as Ordinance No. 2033 which will amend the City of San Rafael Municipal Code in its entirety to replace gender-specific language with gender-neutral language. Ordinance No. 2033 is scheduled for adoption by the San Rafael City Council at its regular meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2024. The City Clerk has been directed to publish this Summary pursuant to City Charter and California Government Code section 36933(c)(1).

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT TO MUNICIPAL CODE

This Ordinance would amend the San Rafael Municipal Code in its entirety to replace gender-specific language with gender-neutral language.

For a complete copy of the text of the Ordinance amending the Municipal Code, please contact the City Clerk's Office at city.clerk@cityofsanrafael.org or by phone at (415) 485-3066. Copies of the Ordinance containing this Municipal Code amendment are also available for public review at the San Rafael City Clerk's office, 1400 Fifth Avenue, 2nd Floor, Room 209, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and on Fridays by appointment only.

/s/ _____
LINDSAY LARA, City Clerk
San Rafael City Clerk
Dated: 2/9/2024