



City News & Information

Media Release



Post-Election Statement from Mayor Dontae Payne

On behalf of the Olympia City Council, I want to take a moment to thank all residents who participated in this recent election and reaffirm our commitment to our city's values. Elections are a cornerstone of our democracy, reflecting the will of the people and guiding our nation's future.

The results of this national election are now known, and as a Council we respect and accept the outcome, regardless of our individual preferences. Now is the time to come together, move forward in strength and unity, and honor the peaceful transfer of power that defines our democracy.

This process is more than just a tradition. It is a testament to our resilience and shared commitment to the principles that bind us together as Americans. As many of our community members feel that the future of democracy is at risk, we cannot lose sight of our principles.

We call on our elected officials at all levels of government to honor to their

oath of office and defend the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Washington.

In Olympia, we remain deeply committed to the values of equity, inclusion, and belonging. We are a [Sanctuary City](#) that stands in defense of immigrant communities and is steadfast in our protection of reproductive rights and against political persecution. These commitments ensure that everyone—especially those who are marginalized—[feel supported, safe, seen, and heard](#).

The City of Olympia will do all we can, within the confines of the law, to protect the rights of all people in our community and we look forward to working with our newly elected and re-elected state and local officials.

Today some community members are celebrating. Many others are in grief, grief over the state of our communities, our nation, and our world. These emotions are valid and understandable especially in times of social and political strain.

We must not allow grief to fester or become destructive. Let us channel those feelings into constructive change within our political process. We must be committed to remaining a nation of laws because social order and the right to live freely and safely depends on it.

In times of political division and heated debate, it's more important than ever to reaffirm our commitment to peaceful dialogue and mutual respect. Political violence in any form and from any side, undermines the very principles that uphold our democracy and our freedoms. Let us instead commit to a path of open dialogue, respectful debate, and peaceful expression.

As we navigate this transition, at the national level, let us all reaffirm our shared values, approach each other with civility and respect, and care for one another as neighbors on the local level. Above all else, choose to see humanity in one another as we continue to build a future with justice, compassion, and opportunity for all.

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