



Statement from Mayor Weiss

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September 14, 2020

Our Shared Peace

On September 2nd, a person from our community sent the City of Veneta a permit request to hold a “Veneta BLM Peace Rally” on our city streets. The day for the event would be September 21st, a day the organizer identified as the United Nations’ International Day of Peace.

Since that time, rumors have been circulating and anxiety has been building. I would like to try to ease the anxiety and to remind our citizens of our shared values in the community that we all love and call home.

Living in a small town, we have established lines of open communication with our neighbors. We might have differences of opinion about some things, but we are also there for each other in times of need. Our children and grandchildren play and go to school together. And the adults tend to look out for each other in ways that get lost in big cities.

We are all uneasy about the unknown and rightfully so. However, we must keep in mind that this is a short moment in time. And as good citizens we should allow each other to peacefully express our opinions, as long as we do it in a respectful manner, and move on. Even if you might not agree with what someone has to say, you owe it to them to at least listen to their point of view.

Although this rally is something that might be out of our normal daily conversations, as your Mayor and friend, I encourage all of us to do what we always have done in Veneta: Show respect for each other, listen, and go on with our daily lives.

Keith Weiss, Mayor