ORDINANCE NO. 4184

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Kent, Washington, repealing existing Chapter 2.56 of the Kent City Code, entitled “Diversity Advisory Board,” and adopting a new Chapter 2.56 of the Kent City Code, entitled “Cultural Communities Board.”

RECITALS

A. Through adoption of Ordinance No. 3414 on August 4, 1998, the Kent City Council created the Diversity Advisory Board, whose responsibility was to assist the city of Kent in promoting cultural diversity through community engagement and participation.

B. In 2008, following discussions with Council and approval from then-members of the Diversity Advisory Board, the Diversity Advisory Board transitioned into the Mayor’s Advisory Team. The Mayor’s Advisory Team was a more fluid, expanded version of the Diversity Advisory Board who counseled the mayor on community outreach, hiring practices, policing, budget, communications, transportation, and other City activities.

C. In her 2014 State of the City address, the mayor announced transitioning the Mayor’s Advisory Team into a Cultural Communities Communications Council. Additionally, as part of the biennial budget for 2015-2016, council designated funds for “cultural communities conversations.” These two initiatives were merged into a “Community Establish the Cultural Communities Board—Chapter 2.56 KCC
Engagement Initiative," which is now being managed through a consultant services contract with LueRachelle Brim-Atkins.

D. As part of the Community Engagement Initiative, the mayor recommended amending the Kent City Code to officially disband the Diversity Advisory Board and establish a new Cultural Communities Board. The role of the Cultural Communities Board would be to facilitate communication and understanding among City government leaders, residents, and diverse cultures, with the objective of increasing civic engagement by and with Kent's diverse cultural and ethnic communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT, WASHINGTON, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

ORDINANCE

SECTION 1. - Repeal Existing Chapter 2.56 KCC - Diversity Advisory Board. Chapter 2.56 of the Kent City Code, entitled "Diversity Advisory Board," is hereby repealed in its entirety.

SECTION 2. - Adopt New Chapter 2.56 KCC - Cultural Communities Board. The Kent City Code is amended to add a new Chapter 2.56 to the Kent City Code, entitled "Cultural Communities Board," as follows:

CHAPTER 2.56
CULTURAL COMMUNITIES BOARD

Sec. 2.56.010. Establishment of board. There is hereby established a Cultural Communities Board, which shall serve in an advisory capacity to the mayor and city council of the city of Kent.

Sec. 2.56.020. Purpose. The Cultural Communities Board will provide input to the mayor and city council on policy and process that seek
to promote and facilitate civic engagement, integration, and access to city services by all cultural communities within the city of Kent.

**Sec. 2.56.030. Responsibilities.** The board shall have the following responsibilities:

A. To advise on issues and serve as a resource relating to the social and civic participation of Kent’s multicultural communities to promote civic involvement.

B. To advise on policies for effective integration of new residents from Kent’s multicultural communities.

C. To advise on strategies for culturally responsive communication, services, and outreach to Kent’s diverse communities.

D. To advise on strategies for promoting inclusiveness of Kent’s multicultural communities within all aspects of city government and the community.

E. To serve as a liaison among community members, residents, businesses, and city government on issues that affect the city and its quality of life, including identifying needs, suggesting resources, and connecting cultural and ethnic communities to existing city resources.

**Sec. 2.56.040. Composition of the board.** The board will consist of up to 18 members who shall be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council, two of which will be youth representatives. Membership shall be Kent residents who are representative of the cultural and ethnic diversity of the Kent community. Board members shall serve as city volunteers without compensation. Each member of the board shall have an equal vote in recommendations from the board.
Sec. 2.56.050. Terms of appointment. All members appointed to the board shall serve one-year terms. A member may be reappointed by the mayor and confirmed by the council to successive one-year terms. The board chair shall be appointed annually by the board’s members.

Sec. 2.56.060. Staffing. The mayor will appoint appropriate staff to assist the board in the preparation of any reports and records as are necessary for the operation of the board.

Sec. 2.56.070. Meetings. The board shall meet upon the call of the mayor or chair, as necessary, but no less than once a quarter.

Sec. 2.56.080. Attendance and vacancies. At any meeting of the board, the board may recommend to the mayor removal of any member who misses three (3) consecutive meetings without being excused by the board upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the board. To fill unexpired terms, replacement appointments will be made as necessary by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. Appointments made to fill vacancies will be made to fill the portion of the unexpired term.

SECTION 3. – Savings. The existing Chapter 2.56 of the Kent City Code, which is repealed and replaced by this ordinance, shall remain in full force and effect until the effective date of this ordinance.

SECTION 4. – Corrections by City Clerk or Code Reviser. Upon approval of the city attorney, the city clerk and the code reviser are authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including the correction of clerical errors; ordinance, section, or subsection numbering; or references to other local, state, or federal laws, codes, rules, or regulations.
SECTION 5. – Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from and after its passage, as provided by law.

Suzette Cooke
SUZETTE COOKE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Ronald F. Moore, MMC
RONALD F. MOORE, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

TOM BRUBAKER, CITY ATTORNEY

PASSED: 8th day of December, 2015.
APPROVED: 8th day of December, 2015.
PUBLISHED: 11th day of December, 2015.

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of Ordinance No. 1104 passed by the City Council of the City of Kent, Washington, and approved by the Mayor of the City of Kent as hereon indicated.

Ronald F. Moore, MMC
(SEAL)
RONALD F. MOORE, CITY CLERK