

Statement of Mayor Mike Signer – August 30, 2017

In the deeply troubling and traumatizing recent weeks, I have taken several actions as Mayor, and made several communications, that have been inconsistent with the collaboration required by our system of governance and that overstepped the bounds of my role as Mayor, for which I apologize to my colleagues and the people of Charlottesville. These actions included an ill-advised Facebook post that impugned the reputations of our City Manager Maurice Jones and our Chief of Police Al Thomas, for which I sincerely apologize.

Going forward, I am committed to working with my colleagues on City Council to putting the needs of the City and our community first. I am looking forward to working for consensus and to forge unity. I have honestly enjoyed this opportunity to discuss a fresh start with my colleagues during this closed session, and am glad to announce that I will be committing to the following four protocols through the rest of this year:

- 1) With the exception of my regular City Manager check-ins, I will meet with senior staff only with another Councilor present.
- 2) I will be more mindful of the time of the Council Clerk and Assistant Clerk
- 3) I will work with my colleagues to ensure that Council meetings going forward reflect shared leadership—with various members taking announcements, public comment and public hearings, and the Mayor chairing the business meeting
- 4) I will not make public pronouncements or announcements as Mayor without working with my Colleagues and the City Manager beforehand and ensuring their consent, and will always have another Council member present.