

**From:** Sheila DeCiccio [<mailto:sheila@sheilaforwinterpark.com>]

**Sent:** Thursday, June 4, 2020 5:20 PM

**To:**

**Subject:** A Message from Sheila DeCiccio

"To deny people their human rights is  
to challenge their very humanity."

– Nelson Mandela

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

My heart aches. I grieve for the victims of racism and police violence. Injustice, inequality, bigotry, and racism in all forms must end.

As your Winter Park City Commissioner, I commit to fight for fairness, diversity, and equality in our City government and in our community. I am listening and learning so that we can do better together. I'm in the process of making my City Citizen Advisory Board appointments which will reflect the great diversity of our community. Of course, there is much more work to be done and I will continue to work hard to make Winter Park more inclusive and just.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions, ideas or concerns that you would like to share: [Sheila@sheilaforwinterpark.com](mailto:Sheila@sheilaforwinterpark.com).

Sincerely,



Sheila DeCiccio  
Winter Park City Commissioner Seat 2  
[Sheila@sheilaforwinterpark.com](mailto:Sheila@sheilaforwinterpark.com)

**From:** Marty Sullivan <[MSullivan@cityofwinterpark.org](mailto:MSullivan@cityofwinterpark.org)>

**Date:** June 5, 2020 at 5:11:39 PM EDT

**To:**

**Subject:** My thoughts on our racial divide

**Reply-To:** [msullivan@cityofwinterpark.org](mailto:msullivan@cityofwinterpark.org)



Dear Winter Park Neighbor,

George W. Bush 43 issued a statement on today's condition of racism and violence, stating "It is time for America to examine our tragic failures."

Here are my thoughts on our racial divide.

The death of George Floyd was tragic. This along with numerous similar events is a symptom of continuing, engrained racism in our society. We have failed as a nation to put race aside in our dealings with a minority group.

Former slaves were freed 5 generations ago. Yet, this minority group has remained suppressed economically, judicially, geographically, education-wise, socially, and health-wise.

The second half of the 20th century brought great strides in governments' treatments of African American minorities, beginning with the 1954 Brown versus Board of Education and continuing with the 1965 Voting Rights Act, where President Johnson declared, "I speak tonight for the dignity of man and the destiny of democracy." These steps to defeat racism were accomplished with peaceful protests including lunch counter sit-ins, marches, bus rides, and peaceful gatherings. The key strategy for success was a commitment to nonviolent protest, led by Martin Luther King, Jr., who stated, "Hate begets hate; violence begets violence; toughness begets a greater toughness. We must meet the forces of hate with the power of love."

We have outlawed government mistreatment of minorities, but we have yet to exterminate racism. Racist actions continue, both by government agencies, particularly law enforcement, and by our fellow citizens.

Peaceful gatherings across the country show that we still care, we still love our fellow citizens, and we ask, rather demand, that entrenched racism be defeated. Most Americans desire this, and I believe that continuing nonviolent action will bring about this needed change

ADDITIONAL ACTION WILL BEING ABOUT THE RECENT CHANGE.

We can support all Winter Park citizens and help protect our historic neighborhoods if we:

- Hold a referendum on single member districts
- Provide inclusive participation from all neighborhoods in city government
- Reflect citizens' desires with Board and Commission decisions
- Provide infrastructure support for all neighborhoods

Sincerely,



P.S. I always appreciate hearing from you on Winter Park issues.

Here are the best ways to reach me:

- Simply click "reply" to this email
- Follow me on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/Marty4WP>
- Email me at [msullivan@cityofwinterpark.org](mailto:msullivan@cityofwinterpark.org)
- Give me a call or text (407) 599-3234



This information provided by Marty Sullivan individually, Winter Park Commissioner, Seat 1  
This content is not intended to represent views of the Commission