



March 27, 2022

Dear ANCA-OC & Armenian Community Members,

Thank you for your work on behalf of the Armenian community throughout Orange County and for meeting with me last year to start a conversation about the issues affecting our communities. The conversation over these past few days has been difficult for many and has opened the door for all of us to heal and build trust with each other. I have heard from your organization, and many others in the Armenian community that some of my past actions, those I was in the room with, and meetings I have taken have created anger and disappointment within the community. So, first and foremost, I want to start by apologizing to the Armenian community. As a woman of color, I know how difficult it is to fight for representation, and I am sorry that my actions feel short for the Armenian people.

As it relates to the pressing issues, I wanted to send you this letter to outline the efforts I am taking, and the items I am committed to in the coming days:

- **My relationship with Mr. Kirlikovali:** I denounce all comments by Mr. Kirlikovali denying the Armenian genocide and the damage it has done to the Armenian community. And, to be clear, Mr. Kirlikovali has never served on any official city commission or committee.
- **Campaign Contributions from Mr. Kirlikovali:** In reviewing my current and prior campaign contributions, Mr. Kirlikovali has donated a total of \$1,500 across my campaign committees. I will be using that money to make a donation of \$1,500 to the Genocide Education Project.
- **Upcoming Meeting:** I look forward to scheduling a meeting with Armenian leaders to continue building trust and finding ways to work together.

- **Armenian Genocide Recognition:** My colleagues and I will introduce a resolution to declare April 24th as a Day of Remembrance for the victims of the Armenian Genocide. This proclamation will join the past resolutions the Irvine City Council has taken to recognize the Armenian Genocide and its impact on the community.

I have stated many times and will continue to say, that I stand with the Armenian community. And, as an ally to the Armenian community, I will continue learning from your experiences. The contents of this letter will not solve all of our challenges, but I hope it serves as the beginning of an ongoing relationship between us.

Thank you for your reading this letter.

Best,



Mayor Farrah N. Khan

City of Irvine