



CITY OF ELY

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January 13, 2021

Along with many of you I am horrified at the events that took place at the U.S. Capitol on January 6th. Over the past several days we have seen images and scenes play out that are hard to watch and allegations and facts that are hard to hear. For me this has brought up feelings very similar to the way I remember feeling watching the events play out on 9/11 nearly 20 years ago now. Despite these unhappy events, to say nothing of their implications, we all would do well to remember a few things. Principally, just because someone in our neighborhood is flying a "Trump" flag does not mean they are responsible for what happened in Washington D.C. any more than someone you know, who happens to be a registered Democrat, being responsible for actions being taken by the House of Representatives. In the same way that it was incorrect to blame a neighbor from the Middle East for the events on 9/11, let us remember to place blame where blame is due and not let our feelings regarding last week's events unnecessarily color how we view those around us. Let us remember that we are family, friends, and neighbors above all else. There is room enough in our City, State, and Country for different ideas and points of view. There is no room for hate and violence. Let us remember that despite different ideas or political parties, there is more that unites us than divides us. We do not have control over most of these unprecedented events, but we do have control over our own actions. We can do our best, show kindness to others and move forward with patience and understanding for those we meet. In the coming weeks and months as we wrestle with the facts and effects of last week, I would encourage each of us to exercise a greater measure of patience and kindness. Strong, united communities make a strong country.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nathan Robertson".

Nathan Robertson
Mayor