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JUL 07 2015

CITY OF IRVINE  
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

# Memo

To: Sean Joyce, City Manager  
From: Mayor Steven S. Choi, Ph.D.   
Date: July 7, 2015  
Re: **Display of National Motto in Council Chambers**

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Please place on the July 14, 2015 City Council agenda consideration of approving permanent display of "In God We Trust" in a designated location in the Council Chambers.

With more than 80 institutions of faith in our City, we are proud of the spirit, diversity and respect that defines our community. To that end, I request the City Council provide direction to staff on how to advance the display of our nation's motto "In God We Trust." Displays can vary ranging from the text "In God We Trust" displayed near the city seal, a graphic with the U.S. flag and "In God We Trust" text or a combination of the city seal and the text "In God We Trust."

On July 30, 1956, "In God We Trust" was established as the United States national motto. In 2002 and 2011, Congress reaffirmed the national motto and encouraged its display in all public schools and government buildings.

According to In God We Trust-America Inc., there are 539 cities and counties across the United States – 118 in California and 18 in the County of Orange – that have approved display of the nation motto "In God We Trust" in government meeting places, such as Council Chambers.

cc: City Council  
City Clerk