

*The Board of Supervisors of
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2021/168

Proclamation Declaring the Month of May 2021 as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

WHEREAS, all residents deserve to be treated with dignity, respect, compassion and justice regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, income or economic status, political affiliation, military status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental or sensory ability; and

WHEREAS, on March 30, 2021, the Board of Supervisors issued a statement condemning recent and continuing acts of violence against Asian Americans across the country and reaffirming that racism, in any form, and against any group, has no place in Contra Costa County; and

WHEREAS, the origin of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the United States dates back to 1978 when a joint congressional resolution established Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week in early May to coincide with two important milestones in Asian/Pacific American history: the arrival in the United States of the first Japanese immigrants on May 7, 1843 and contributions of Chinese workers to the building of the transcontinental railroad, completed May 10, 1869; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the first Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month was designated by presidential proclamation and in 1992, Congress permanently designated May of each year as a monthlong celebration that is now known as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islanders make up 18-percent of the population in Contra Costa County according to the U.S. Census Bureau 2019 American Community Survey; and

WHEREAS, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans continue to enrich our region's economy, culture, education, politics, arts, literature, science and technological developments, sports and public service despite institutional and systemic injustices designed to prevent and limit these achievements and contributions.

WHEREAS, during 2020 and 2021 more than two million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders nationwide have been on the frontlines of the coronavirus pandemic, working in health care, law enforcement, emergency services, food services, transportation and other industries; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of the Asian Pacific American community is important now more than ever given the rise of anti-Asian sentiment nationwide due to xenophobia and racism related to the global COVID-19 health pandemic; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors recognizes and celebrates the contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the culture, history, economy, security and scientific achievements of our nation and our community, encourages all our residents to deepen their understanding of these contributions, and declares May 2021 to be Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Contra Costa County.

DIANE BURGIS

Chair, District III Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA
District I Supervisor

CANDACE ANDERSEN
District II Supervisor

KAREN MITCHOFF
District IV Supervisor

FEDERAL D. GLOVER
District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an
action taken
and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on
the date
shown.

ATTESTED: May 18, 2021

Monica Nino, County Administrator

By: _____, Deputy