

RESOLUTION NO. 21-33

Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Emeryville Denouncing Xenophobia And Anti-Asian Racism Arising Due To Fears Of The COVID-19 Pandemic And Affirming The City Of Emeryville's Commitment To The Well-being And Safety Of Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities

WHEREAS, twenty three million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders account for seven percent of the Nation's population in the United States; and

WHEREAS, over two million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are working on the frontlines of this COVID-19 pandemic in health care, law enforcement, first responders, transportation, supermarkets, and other service industries; and

WHEREAS, the use of anti-Asian terminology and rhetoric related to COVID-19, such as the "Chinese Virus", "Wuhan Virus", and "Kung-flu" have perpetuated anti-Asian stigma; and

WHEREAS, such rhetoric is inaccurate and stigmatizing, tends to incite fear and xenophobia, and may put individuals of Asian ancestry at risk of retaliation and deterrence from accessing resources and services, appearing in public, and expressing their identity; and

WHEREAS, as SARS-CoV2 has spread, numerous Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities have reported experiencing microaggressions, racial profiling, hate incidents and, in some cases, hate violence due to fears of COVID-19; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Emeryville that:

1. The City denounces xenophobia and anti-AAPI sentiment and condemns harmful rhetoric and racist acts arising due to the fears of the COVID-19 pandemic;
2. The City joins cities, counties, and states across the country in affirming its commitment to the safety and well-being of citizens, non-citizens and visitors with ancestry from the Asia Pacific region and in combating racist acts targeting AAPIs;
3. The City Council encourages the City to partner with community-based organizations, advocacy groups, as well as other appropriate officials and agencies across the county, to protect AAPI residents and victims of discrimination and to curb hate acts for other groups, including, but not limited to, Black, Latinx, Indigenous, Muslim, Jewish, and LGBTQ communities, and people with disabilities;
4. The City Council encourages City Departments to ensure that eligible minority-owned and disadvantaged small businesses have fair access to the City's resources, and can be directed to language assistance where needed;

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5. The City Council urges the City to partner with community-based organizations to highlight AAPI stories and uplift the contributions of AAPI-owned businesses and AAPI-led organizations;

and, be it, further

RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Emeryville that the City calls upon all counties, cities, and local governments across the United States to adopt similar commitments to reaffirm their solidarity with AAPI communities and commit to combating hate and improving health equity.

ADOPTED, by the City Council of the City of Emeryville at a regular meeting held Tuesday, April 20, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:	<u>5</u>	Mayor Martinez, Vice Mayor Donahue, and Council Members Bauters, Medina, and Patz
NOES:	<u>0</u>	
ABSTAIN:	<u>0</u>	
ABSENT:	<u>0</u>	

DocuSigned by:

Dianne Martinez

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Sheri Hartz

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CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michael Quinn

CITY ATTORNEY