

## Resolution No. 2021-040 N.C.S. of the City of Petaluma, California

### **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITIES AND DENOUNCING ANTI-ASIAN RACISM, DISCRIMINATION, INTIMIDATION, THREATS AND VIOLENCE**

**WHEREAS**, on February 27, 2017, the City of Petaluma adopted Resolution No. 2017-032 N.C.S. addressing discrimination based on sexual orientation, religious beliefs, immigration status, gender, race, disability, economic status, ethnicity, and national origin, “to safeguard the equal and inalienable right and inherent dignity of all people that is the foundation of the relationship between a government and the people;” and

**WHEREAS**, in adopting Resolution No. 2017-032 N.C.S. “the City Council of the City of Petaluma, on behalf of the entire Petaluma community, recognized the rights, freedom, and dignity of all people are under threat and that children and families face potentially devastating and permanent harm” and resolved that “[t]he City of Petaluma stands in support of individuals, organizations, and governing authorities and agencies who are taking action to ensure all community members in the City of Petaluma and all visitors are safe here, and that their human, constitutional and other rights and freedoms are respected;” and

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2021, the Santa Rosa Junior College District Board of Trustees adopted Resolution Number 7-21 in Support of Solidarity with the Asian American Pacific Islander Communities and Denouncing Anti-Asian Racism/Violence, and requested that other Sonoma County jurisdictions and organizations consider adopting a similar position; and

**WHEREAS**, according to 2010 US Census data, Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community members comprise at least 4.6% of the City of Petaluma population; and

**WHEREAS**, AAPI community members have been part of the rich ethnic diversity of the City of Petaluma and Sonoma County and have contributed greatly to the economic and cultural vibrancy of the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the AAPI population has faced historical and structural racism in both Sonoma County and in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the recent epidemic of COVID-19 has been falsely blamed on AAPI individuals and mischaracterized as the “China Flu;” and

**WHEREAS**, the number of AAPI hate crimes has increased in the United States and in local communities in San Francisco, Oakland and the greater Bay Area, with 3,795 incidents of anti-Asian discrimination being documented, including 1,691 reports originating in California from 3/19/2020 to 2/28/2021 according to the 2020-2021 National Report by Stop AAPI Hate, a national organization comprised of the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council, Chinese for Affirmative Action, and Asian American Studies Department of San Francisco State University; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council members, the City Manager, department heads, and staff members within the City of Petaluma have expressed their commitment to solidarity with AAPI colleagues and community members in denouncing racism, discrimination, intimidation, threats and violence directed at AAPI community members.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Petaluma as follows:

1. The City of Petaluma joins the Sonoma County Junior College District Board of Trustees and Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA) in condemning acts of racism, discrimination, intimidation, threats and violence directed at AAPI community members and stands in solidarity with AAPI students, employees, and community members; and
2. The City Council of the City of Petaluma calls for open and respectful dialogue that promotes awareness and understanding of the diverse history and culture of the AAPI community, including historic discrimination against AAPI community members in the U.S., California, Sonoma County, and Petaluma, and the many important and lasting contributions of AAPI community members to the Nation, the state, the region, and to the Petaluma community.

Under the power and authority conferred upon this Council by the Charter of said City.

**REFERENCE:**

I hereby certify the foregoing Resolution was introduced and adopted by the Council of the City of Petaluma at a Regular meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021, by the following vote:

Approved as to

DocuSigned by:



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City Attorney

**AYES:**

Mayor Barrett; Vice Mayor Barnacle; Fischer; Healy; King; McDonnell; Pocekay

**NOES:**

None

**ABSENT:**

None

**ABSTAIN:**

None

**ATTEST:**

DocuSigned by:



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City Clerk

DocuSigned by:



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Mayor