

RESOLUTION NO. 20-_____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CUPERTINO CITY COUNCIL
AFFIRMING THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO STAND IN SOLIDARITY
WITH THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council and Chinese for Affirmative Action launched a hate incident-reporting internet website, titled "Stop Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Hate," at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in March of 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Stop AAPI Hate reporting center documented over 2,800 hate incidents against the Asian and Pacific Islander community in 2020; and

WHEREAS, over 700 of these incidents occurred in the Bay Area of California; and

WHEREAS, racism against the Asian and Pacific Islander community has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, politically charged and culturally insensitive rhetoric referring to COVID-19 as the "Chinese virus" or "kung flu" further encourages racism, prejudice, and hate crimes against the Asian and Pacific Islander community; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2021, 84-year-old Vicha Ratanapakdee, a nearly-blind and gentle elderly Thai man, died from injuries resulting from an attack while he was walking in the City of San Francisco, in what is deemed as a hate crime; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2021, three elderly Asian Americans were assaulted in the City of Oakland's Chinatown District, including a 91-year-old Asian man who sustained serious injuries, such as lacerations, abrasions, and a contusion to the left thumb, in what is deemed a hate crime; and

WHEREAS, about 31% of Asian Americans report having been subject to discrimination since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a Pew Research Center report; and

WHEREAS, Cupertino is blessed to be a multiracial community, and we decided long ago that mutual understanding and respect develops a much healthier, safer, and caring community; and

WHEREAS, it is important to acknowledge that the Asian and Pacific Islander community is made up of people from various socioeconomic backgrounds, and many face significant financial struggles; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Clara County, one of the first minority-majority counties in the nation, Asians have been the largest racial group since 2014, and currently, Asians make up nearly 38% of the county's population; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Cupertino, Asians make up 64% of the City's population; and

WHEREAS, it is important for the community as a whole to stand in solidarity with the Asian and Pacific Islander communities across the country.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council does hereby affirm its commitment to stand in solidarity with the Asian and Pacific Islander community and resolves as follows:

1. The City of Cupertino denounces hate crimes, hateful rhetoric, and hateful acts; and does not tolerate discrimination, xenophobia, or harassment; and
2. The City of Cupertino will oppose any attempts to undermine the safety, security, and rights of members of our community and will work proactively to ensure the rights and privileges of everyone in the City—regardless of race; and
3. The City of Cupertino will promote safety, a sense of security, and equal protection of constitutional and human rights, leading by example through equitable treatment of all by City officials and departments; and
4. The City of Cupertino encourages the community to stand together in affirming its commitment to the safety and well-being of the Asian and Pacific Islander community in Cupertino, California, and our country.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Cupertino this 16th day of March, 2021, by the following vote:

Members of the City Council

AYES:

NOES:

Resolution No. _____

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ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

SIGNED: _____ Darcy Paul, Mayor City of Cupertino	_____ Date
ATTEST: _____ Kirsten Squarcia, City Clerk	_____ Date