



CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Item # 10

AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 12, 2020

Subject: Resolution No. 2020-18: Denouncing xenophobia and anti-Asian sentiment arising due to fears of the COVID-10 Pandemic

Prepared by: Chris Jordan, City Manager

Attachment(s):

1. Resolution No. 2020-18

Initiated by:

Vice Mayor Fligor, City Council

Previous Council Consideration:

Fiscal Impact:

Not Applicable

Environmental Review:

Not applicable

Policy Question(s) for Council Consideration:

- N/A

Summary:

Recommended Motion:

Move to adopt Resolution 2020-18 denouncing xenophobia and anti-Asian sentiment arising due to fears of the COVID-19 pandemic and affirming the City's commitment to the well-being and safety of Asian-Pacific American communities

Reviewed By:

City Manager

CJ

City Attorney

JH

Finance Director

SE

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-18

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS DENOUNCING
XENOPHOBIA AND ANTI-ASIAN SENTIMENT ARISING DUE TO FEARS
OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND AFFIRMING ITS COMMITMENT TO
THE WELL-BEING AND SAFETY OF ASIAN-PACIFIC AMERICAN
COMMUNITIES**

WHEREAS, Asian-Pacific American communities are suffering acts of discrimination, hate crimes, and microaggressions due to fears of and misinformation related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, such anti-Asian rhetoric and sentiment is inaccurate and stigmatizing, tends to incite fear and xenophobia, and put the lives of Asian-Pacific Americans at risk; and

WHEREAS, since the December 2019 outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in Wuhan, China, the infection has grown to more than three million confirmed cases and more than 200,000 confirmed deaths worldwide, and in the United States, over one million cases have been reported as of May 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, scientists have confirmed that the COVID-19 disease does not respect borders and is not caused by ethnicity, and the World Health Organization has cautioned against using geographic descriptors because they can fuel ethnic discrimination; and

WHEREAS, as the COVID-19 virus has spread, numerous Asian-Pacific Americans have reported experiencing microaggressions, racial profiling, hate incidents, and, in some cases, hate violence; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to quantify and combat hate crimes targeting Asian-Pacific Americans stemming from people's reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON) and Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) established an online reporting center where people can fill out a form (available in different languages, including English, traditional Chinese, simplified Chinese, and Korean) to report the location and type of discrimination experienced and other details; and

WHEREAS, A3PCON and CAA plan to use the information reported to create targeted education and media campaigns, provide resources to those affected, and advocate for policies to curb racial targeting; 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 percent of the county's population; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Los Altos, Asians make up approximately 30 percent of the City's population; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Los Altos that the City Council denounces xenophobia and anti-Asian sentiment. The City of Los
Resolution No. 2020-18

Altos joins cities, counties, and states across the country in affirming its commitment to the safety and well-being of Asian-Pacific Americans and in combating hate crimes targeting Asian-Pacific Americans. The City remains committed to protecting residents and victims of hate.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Los Altos at a meeting thereof on the ____ day of ____, 2020 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Janis C. Pepper, MAYOR

Attest:

Andrea Chelemengos, MMC, CITY CLERK