

PROCLAMATION

STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS TO DENOUNCE RACISM AND HATE CRIMES

WHEREAS, The City of Troy is one of the most diverse communities in the State of Michigan, with over 80 languages spoken in homes across its neighborhoods and businesses and over 27% of its residents of Asian descent, and

WHEREAS, The City Council embraces this diversity, and has created a Global Troy Advisory Committee, and has recently had a joint meeting with this Committee exploring ways to enrich and protect our community; and

WHEREAS, The City Council has been advised that the Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) community has experienced a substantial increase in reported hate crimes, xenophobic rhetoric and hateful acts across the nation and in Michigan during this past year, according to the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, and many other instances are unreported due to fear and stigmatization; and

WHEREAS, In the same week we enjoyed the news of 2001 Troy High School graduate Steven Yeun being the first Asian nominated in the Best Actor category for an Academy Award, we experienced the shock of eight murders in Atlanta, which some have characterized as a hate crime; and

WHEREAS, Racism and xenophobia, along with all forms of hate-filled rhetoric negatively impacts residents in Troy, and hence mars the safety, welfare, health and social fabric of our entire community; and

WHEREAS, The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed annually on March 21 – which this year comes during a time of heightened vigilance;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That Troy City Council considers now to be an important moment to reaffirm its commitment to its racial equity statement proclaimed on June 1, 2020, standing in solidarity with all who suffer from racial injustice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Troy City Council condemns and denounces acts of racism, xenophobia and intolerance against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and people of all races and backgrounds in the City and strongly encourages all members of our Community to work together to protect our neighbors by speaking up to help prevent racism, xenophobia and intolerance, upholding the inherent and inviolable dignity and value of every single person in the City of Troy.

Presented this 22nd Day of March 2021.