

1 [Asian Pacific American Heritage Month - May 2023]

2
3 **Resolution recognizing and celebrating May 2023 as Asian Pacific Heritage Month in**
4 **the City and County of San Francisco, and honoring the significant contributions of the**
5 **Asian Pacific American community.**

6
7 WHEREAS, The month of May carries significance to Asian Pacific Americans because
8 of two historic events that occurred on May 7, 1843, the date of the first recorded arrival of
9 immigrants from Japan to the United States, and May 10, 1869, the completion of the
10 Transcontinental Railroad, a monumental project made possible by primarily Chinese laborers
11 despite discriminatory, unsafe conditions and without acknowledgement and is now
12 recognized as Transcontinental Chinese Railroad Workers Day; and

13 WHEREAS, The origin of the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month came from a
14 former Capitol Hill staffer, Jeanie Jew, who illuminated the need for the recognition of this
15 important community in highlighting her own story as a great granddaughter of a Chinese
16 Transcontinental worker and Ruby Moy, the chief of staff of Representative Horton who
17 worked to make the commemoration possible; and

18 WHEREAS, Congressional representatives dating back to 1977, most notably
19 Congressmembers Norman Mineta and Frank Horton, introduced Resolutions to designate
20 official recognition for Asian Pacific Heritage, which eventually recognized the first week of
21 May as Asian/Pacific American Week; and

22 WHEREAS, On March 28, 1979, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential
23 proclamation for Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week to recognize the significant
24 contributions of the Asian Pacific community; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1991, United States President George H.W. Bush signed into law a
2 Joint Resolution adopted by the Congress of the United States, declaring that the month of
3 May be celebrated as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in the United States; and in
4 1992, it was declared that the celebration would take place in May in perpetuity; and

5 WHEREAS, San Francisco has a significant Asian Pacific population and has
6 celebrated Asian Pacific Heritage Month annually; and

7 WHEREAS, In 2005, Mayor Gavin Newsom embraced the idea of an annual official
8 celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in San Francisco with festivities
9 coordinated and organized by a diverse group of community representatives serving on the
10 Asian Pacific American (APA) Heritage Celebration Committee; and

11 WHEREAS, Since 2005, San Francisco's annual celebration event of Asian Pacific
12 American Heritage Month historically took place on the first Monday of May; and

13 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors also honored notable Asian
14 Pacific residents and organizations in each of the eleven Supervisorial Districts for community
15 service, contributions, and achievements during a Special Commendation Ceremony for
16 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month at an official Board Meeting in May; and

17 WHEREAS, The celebration of the Asian Pacific American community is important now
18 more than ever given the rise of anti-Asian sentiment nationwide due to continued xenophobia
19 and racism related to the global COVID-19 health pandemic; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
21 recognizes and celebrates the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in the
22 City and County of San Francisco; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
24 Francisco will participate and support events and campaigns that highlight the achievements
25

1 and contributions of the Asian Pacific community to elevate cross-cultural understanding and
2 promote cross-racial solidarity; and, be it

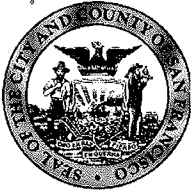
3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors will continue to support the
4 Asian Pacific community, especially with language access and culturally responsive services,
5 during this time of crisis to ensure that basic services and protection are provided during this
6 health emergency; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
8 Francisco commends the work of the Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration Committee
9 and the APA Heritage Foundation for making these events possible; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
11 Francisco commends the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM), Asian Art Museum, the
12 San Francisco Public Library, and over 100 Publicity Partners including API Council, Chinese
13 Cultural Center, Chinatown Community Development Center, Filipina Women’s Network,
14 Northern California Cherry Blossom Festival, Korean Center Inc., Samoan Community
15 Development Center, and many more for their partnership in producing and promoting the
16 activities to celebrate Asian Pacific American Month; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors extends their highest
18 commendation to the 2023 honorees of the APA Heritage Celebration Committee for their
19 remarkable impact serving the Asian Pacific community in San Francisco, including:

- 20 • Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation on the occasion of their 40th
21 Anniversary
- 22 • Asian Pacific Fund on the occasion of their 30th Anniversary
- 23 • Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California on the occasion of
24 their 50th Anniversary.



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 230487

Date Passed: May 02, 2023

Resolution recognizing and celebrating May 2023 as Asian Pacific Heritage Month in the City and County of San Francisco, and honoring the significant contributions of the Asian Pacific American community.

May 02, 2023 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 230487

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 5/2/2023 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo
Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

05/10/2023

London N. Breed
Mayor

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo
Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

05/10/2023

Date