

1 [Denouncing the Rise in Violence Against the Asian American and Pacific Islander  
Community]

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3 **Resolution denouncing the rise in violence against the Asian American and Pacific**  
4 **Islander (AAPI) community, urging City departments to create a Coordinated Citywide**  
5 **Violence Prevention and Victim Support Plan for the AAPI community, and establishing**  
6 **the Board’s budget priority to support violence prevention and victim services.**

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8 WHEREAS, In recent years, there has been a series of high profile unprovoked violent  
9 crimes, including beatings, robberies, sexual assaults and deaths involving the Asian-  
10 American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, disproportionately targeting women and the  
11 elderly; and

12 WHEREAS, There has also been an increase in reported hate incidents directed  
13 toward AAPI individuals that are not physically violent or do not rise to the level of a crime,  
14 such as online and verbal racial slurs, but are nevertheless harmful to victims and promote  
15 violence in communities; and

16 WHEREAS, The racialization of COVID-19, primarily by former President Donald  
17 Trump, has ushered in a dramatic spike in hate and harassment directed toward the AAPI  
18 community, who are being scapegoated for introducing and spreading the pandemic; and

19 WHEREAS, The organization Stop AAPI Hate reported on March 16, 2021, that there  
20 were 3,795 hate incidents nationwide since the beginning of the pandemic, including 359  
21 incidents in San Francisco, though this is largely accepted as a gross undercount; and

22 WHEREAS, Anti-Asian racism is not a new phenomenon and has been a long part of  
23 American history, from the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, to racism-fueled lynchings and  
24 murders of Asians such as the murder of Vincent Chin, the mass incarceration and  
25 disenfranchisement of the Japanese American community during World War II, to the

1 promulgation of the “model minority myth;” and is deeply connected to the struggles against  
2 systemic racism of Black, Indigenous, and other people of color communities; and

3 WHEREAS, On February 9, 2021, Asian organizations across the Bay Area joined  
4 forces to demand action against violence, including for San Francisco leaders to “immediately  
5 increase culturally-relevant and trauma-informed investments that:

- 6 1. Ensure victims and survivors of all backgrounds and language abilities receive full  
7 supportive services so they can recover and heal.
- 8 2. Expand intervention- and prevention-based programs and invest in basic needs and  
9 community-based infrastructure that we know will end the cycle of violence and keep  
10 all of us safer.
- 11 3. Resource cross-community education and healing in Asian American and Black  
12 communities that humanizes all of us rather than demonizes or scapegoats any  
13 community of color”; and

14 WHEREAS, On April 8, 2021, Supervisors Mar and Chan responded to this call to  
15 action and held a hearing on crime and violence targeting the AAPI community, which  
16 revealed that City departments rely heavily on community-based organizations and  
17 community leaders to provide victim support and violence prevention work, that these  
18 partnerships need to be strengthened, and that communities need to be adequately  
19 resourced; and

20 WHEREAS, In addition to providing victim support and violence prevention work,  
21 community-based organizations and community leaders have also worked to mitigate rising  
22 racial tensions, particularly between the Black and Asian communities; and

23 WHEREAS, The hearing also revealed the lack of an adequate citywide response  
24 system for AAPI crime survivors and their families, barriers to access victim support -  
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1 including in-language outreach and culturally responsive services - and a need to improve  
2 coordination to prevent violence; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors denounces the rise in violence against the  
4 AAPI community; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests that non-law  
6 enforcement and law enforcement agencies come together to create a Coordinated Citywide  
7 Violence Prevention and Victim Support Plan for the AAPI community, especially to  
8 strengthen language access and culturally competent services, with a proposed Draft by June  
9 1, 2021; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That agencies including but not limited to the Human Rights  
11 Commission, Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs, the Department of Public  
12 Health, the San Francisco Police Department, and the Office of the District Attorney take part  
13 in the creation of this Plan; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Plan first focus on an inventory and an analysis of  
15 existing policies and programs in order to create:

- 16 1. A coordinated citywide victim response protocol responsive to the AAPI community
- 17 2. A citywide network of violence prevention programs responsive to the AAPI  
18 community
- 19 3. A proposal for a central convening body for the long-term coordination of the City's  
20 interdepartmental victim response and violence prevention work
- 21 4. Recommendations to strengthen objectives 1 and 2; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That it is a priority of the Board of Supervisors in its budget  
23 process this year to support violence prevention and victim services anchored in the AAPI  
24 community, such as in-language and culturally accessible community safety infrastructure,  
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1 victim wrap-around and care management, community street outreach, restorative  
2 programming, and cross-cultural racial organizing; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That it is a priority of the Board of Supervisors in its budget  
4 process this year to address the root causes of violence by investing in low-income AAPI  
5 communities and other communities of color.

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