

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 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020 by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Bruins, Enander, Lee Eng, Vice Mayor Fligor and Mayor Pepper  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

  
Jarvis C. Pepper, MAYOR

Attest:

  
Andrea Chelemengos, MMC, CITY CLERK