

ALAMEDA COUNTY MAYORS' CONFERENCE

Resolution No. 01.21

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALAMEDA MAYORS' CONFERENCE DENOUNCING XENOPHOBIA AND ANTI-ASIAN RACISM ARISING DUE TO FEARS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND AFFIRMING ITS COMMITMENT TO THE WELL-BEING AND SAFETY OF ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, twenty three million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders account for seven percent of the Nation's population in the United States; and

WHEREAS, over two million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are working on the frontlines of this COVID-19 pandemic in health care, law enforcement, first responders, transportation, supermarkets, and other service industries; and

WHEREAS, the use of anti-Asian terminology and rhetoric related to COVID-19, such as the "Chinese Virus", "Wuhan Virus", and "Kung-flu" have perpetuated anti-Asian stigma; and

WHEREAS, such rhetoric is inaccurate and stigmatizing, tends to incite fear and xenophobia, and may put individuals of Asian ancestry at risk of retaliation and deterrence from accessing resources and services, appearing in public, and expressing their identity; and

WHEREAS, as SARS-CoV2 has spread, numerous Asian Pacific Islander (API) communities have reported APIs experiencing microaggressions, racial profiling, hate incidents and, in some cases, hate violence due to fears of COVID-19; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Alameda Mayors' Conference Does Resolve, And Declare that:

1. The Alameda County Mayors' Conference denounces xenophobia and anti-API sentiment and condemns harmful rhetoric and racist acts arising due to the fears of the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. The Alameda County Mayors' Conference joins cities, counties, and states across the country in affirming its commitment to the safety and well-being of citizens, non-citizens and visitors with ancestry from the Asia Pacific region and in combating racist acts targeting APIs.
3. The Alameda County Mayors' Conferences encourages its member cities to partner with community-based organizations, advocacy groups, as well as other appropriate officials and agencies across the county, to protect API residents and victims of discrimination and to curb hate acts for other groups, including, but not limited to, Black, Latinx, Indigenous, Muslim, Jewish, and LGBTQ communities, and people with disabilities.
4. The Alameda County Mayors' Conference encourages its member cities to ensure that eligible minority-owned and disadvantaged small businesses have fair access to the city's resources, such as the Small Business Emergency Relief Grant program, and can be directed to language assistance where needed.

5. The Alameda County Mayors' Conference urges its member cities to partner with community-based organizations to highlight API stories and uplift the contributions of API-owned businesses and API-led organizations.
6. The Alameda County Mayors' Conference calls upon all counties, cities, and local governments across the United States to adopt similar commitments to reaffirm their solidarity with API communities and commit to combating hate and improving health equity.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Alameda County Mayors' Conference at its meeting held on March 10, 2021.

I, Steven Bocian, Executive Director of the Alameda County Mayors' Conference certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Alameda County Mayors' at its meeting held on the eighth day of March 10, 2021 by the following vote:

AYES: Ezzy-Ashcraft, Gary, Arreguin, Hernandez, Martinez, Mei, Halliday, Woerner, Nagy, Schaaf, GrayKing, Brown, and Russo Cutter

NOES: None

ABSENT: Dutra-Vernaci

ABSTENTION: