

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS LIZ BREADON, EDWARD M. FLYNN, FITZGERALD, LOUIJEUNE, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, WEBER, AND WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING ASIAN
AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE
MONTH**

WHEREAS, The Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community has made great contributions to our city and country, and generations of our AAPI residents have enriched all aspects of our city and nation’s history; *and*,

WHEREAS, According to the most recent American Community Survey (ACS 2024), approximately 10.2% of Boston residents and 7.5% of Massachusetts residents identify as Asian American, and Asian Americans continue to be the fastest-growing racial or ethnic group in both the Commonwealth and the nation; *and*,

WHEREAS, Boston is home to the largest AAPI population in Massachusetts, including the third-largest Chinatown in the United States, a vibrant and growing Vietnamese community in Dorchester, and many other AAPI communities across Allston-Brighton, Roslindale, Jamaica Plain, East Boston, and other neighborhoods; *and*,

WHEREAS, The AAPI community is extraordinarily diverse, representing more than 50 ethnic groups and over 100 languages and dialects, and the histories, cultures, and lived experiences of AAPI residents are inseparable from the broader story of the United States; *and*,

WHEREAS, AAPIs contributed to the building of this nation, with the examples of Chinese immigrants being essential in the building of the transcontinental railroad, and Japanese, Korean, and Filipino immigrants being an important workforce in areas such as Hawaii and California; *and*,

WHEREAS, Despite their achievements and contributions, AAPIs have faced strong institutional discrimination and racism, with the Chinese Exclusion Act prohibiting immigration from China, and Japanese internment during World War II being two of the most prominent examples; *and*,

WHEREAS, Anti-Asian hate incidents surged nationally during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, and AAPI residents in Boston continue to report verbal harassment, physical assaults, and discrimination, underscoring the need for continued vigilance, solidarity, and community-centered safety efforts; *and*,

WHEREAS, Boston's AAPI communities continue to strengthen the city through cultural heritage, civic leadership, entrepreneurship, and intergenerational community-building, and it is essential that the City of Boston celebrate, uplift, and protect these communities; *and*,

WHEREAS, May is officially designated as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month under 36 U.S.C. § 102, which calls upon all residents of the United States to recognize and celebrate the achievements and contributions of AAPI communities; *NOW, THEREFORE BE IT*

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council honors and recognizes the contributions, achievements, and cultural heritage of our Asian American and Pacific Islander residents during AAPI Heritage Month in May 2026, and reaffirms its commitment to supporting AAPI communities, combating discrimination and racism, and ensuring that Boston remains a welcoming and inclusive city for all.

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