

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-26**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COACHELLA, CALIFORNIA, DENOUNCING VIOLENT CRIMES AGAINST ASIANS, ASIAN AMERICANS, AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.**

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic is a public health emergency that has caused devastating effects throughout the world and across political and social boundaries, and was not created or caused by any race, nationality, or ethnicity;

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization recognizes that public health emergencies often lead to stigma, demonization, discrimination and scapegoating towards certain communities and groups;

**WHEREAS**, anti-Asian sentiment has been a long-standing part of American history from People v. Hall and the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 to the 1942 executive order that led to internment camps for Japanese people in the United States;

**WHEREAS**, hate crimes targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (“AAPI”) increased by nearly 150 percent in major cities despite decreasing overall in the last year and 44 percent of the incidents reported to Stop AAPI Hate are from California;

**WHEREAS**, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have been facing bias incidents such as verbal harassment, physical assault, job discrimination, and destruction of their businesses as they are being blamed for the outbreak and spread of COVID-19, perpetuated by rhetoric stemming from federal leadership in 2020;

**WHEREAS**, 3 deadly shootings targeted Asian American businesses in Atlanta, Georgia on March 17, 2021;

**WHEREAS**, violent attacks have particularly intensified against Asian senior citizens and such xenophobia and discrimination can have a range of adverse physical and mental health consequences for stigmatized groups and their communities;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coachella wishes promote and protect the diversity of our community and to improve human relations through education and community awareness.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COACHELLA DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the City will not tolerate xenophobia and condemns the rise in hate crimes, attacks, and attitudes against Asian American and Pacific Islander communities;

**SECTION 2.** That the City urges residents to join in calling attention to these harms and denouncing hate to help keep us all safe during this pandemic and beyond;

**SECTION 3.** That the City will commit to protecting residents who are targets of hate by providing tools and resources for reporting such crimes;

**SECTION 4.** That the City will prosecute and curb hate acts related to COVID-19 in partnership with nonprofit organizations, the Riverside County District Attorney's Office, and the City's Police Department/Riverside County Sheriff's Department.

**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

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Steven A. Hernandez  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Angela M. Zepeda, City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Carlos Campos  
City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA            )  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE        ) ss.  
CITY OF COACHELLA            )

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution No. 2021-26 was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Coachella at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 14th day of April 2021, by the following vote of Council:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Andrea J. Carranza, MMC  
Deputy City Clerk