



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Collins acknowledges the month of May is nationally known as Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage month, with many localities adopting the term Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) to be inclusive of South Asians; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Collins, working with Colorado State University's Asian Pacific American Cultural Center, recognizes the growing and expanding APIDA community to celebrate and honor the triumphs of their community members through their historically unique journeys and struggles; and recognizes April as APIDA Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, the APIDA community invites the City to honor their history, an inherently immigrant story of overcoming cultural barriers, language differences, and systemic challenges; and to understand the reality and difficulty of the need to assimilate for survival which may lead to painful cultural distancing and erasure, and yet still be denied their American identity; and

WHEREAS, the City acknowledges the nation's historical injustices and continued violence, harassment, and hate incidents against those who identify as APIDA, both in Fort Collins, and across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Collins City Council and staff have committed to make Fort Collins a welcoming place for all and invites the community to celebrate their diversity, resiliency, and vibrant cultures, recognizing such members who lead, educate, and invite into the APIDA community, such as CSU's graduate student, Seojung Lee.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeni Arndt, Mayor of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2023 as:

ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER DESI AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 18th day of April, 2023.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk