



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is an opportunity to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869; and

WHEREAS, the observance began in 1979 when Rep. Horton introduced a House Joint Resolution proposing the President would "proclaim a week, which is to include the seventh and tenth of the month, during the first ten days in May of 1979 as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week". The joint resolution was passed by the House and Senate, which was signed by President Jimmy Carter on October 5, 1978, to become public law. At that time, the law amended the original language to say a proclamation should be issued for the "7-day period beginning on May 4, 1979, as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. In 1990, Congress expanded the observance to a month, and in 1992 became Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 U.S. Census estimates that 2.5-2.6% of Whitewater's population are Asian American and .04% are Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander residents; and

WHEREAS, 1.1% of the students in the Whitewater Unified School District identify as Asian American and Pacific Islander; and

WHEREAS, 2.4% of the students at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in Whitewater, Wisconsin, identify as Asian American and Pacific Islander; and

WHEREAS, the City of Whitewater joins the rest of the nation in recognizing the unique and vital role in our economy, workforce, education, and faith communities these Asian American and Pacific Islander residents contribute.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Weidl, City Manager for the City of Whitewater, proclaims the month of May 2026 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the City of Whitewater and encourages residents to observe this month.

Presented this 21st day of April, 2026.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John S. Weidl".

John S. Weidl, City Manager