

PROCLAMATION

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage in the United States was celebrated beginning in 1978 and was made into a month-long event in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage month is a month to celebrate and pay tribute to the vast diversity of languages, religions and cultural traditions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders that strengthen the fabric of American society; and

WHEREAS, the month of May was selected as it honors the immigration of the first Japanese residents to the United States in 1843. Additionally, May also marks the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad in 1869, constructed by the labor of mostly Chinese immigrants; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have lived and worked in Oregon for more than 200 years, contributing to the state's rich history, economy, and culture; and

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander history in Oregon is marked by a struggle for freedom, equity and justice, prevailing over the adversity of exclusion, persecution, incarceration, and disparities. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have helped advance Oregon's prosperity and have a longstanding history of making esteemed, significant, cultural, and economic and community contributions; and

WHEREAS, the vibrant history and diverse cultures of Oregon's Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are here to be honored and respected as a central part of our state, county, and City's story and shared with all Oregonians; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Denyse McGriff, Commission President of the City of Oregon City, do hereby proclaim:

May 2022

as

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Proclamation

AND, encourage everyone to commemorate this important occasion in recognition of the numerous contributions made by the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities locally, nationally, and globally.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 4th day of May 2022.


DENYSE MCGRIFF, Commission President