

EFFECTIVE DATE: 5-4-20

RESOLUTION NO. R2020-35

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF AURORA, COLORADO, CONDEMNING HATE CRIME ACTS AND ANTI-ASIAN SENTIMENTS AGAINST ASIAN AMERICANS, PACIFIC ISLANDERS, IMMIGRANTS, AND REFUGEES AS RELATED TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, an outbreak of a new coronavirus disease, now identified specifically as COVID-19, was detected in China in December of 2019, and since then the disease has spread to multiple continents, countries and territories in the world; and

WHEREAS, incidents of hate crimes against Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, immigrants, and refugees has increased on a national scale as they are being blamed for the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, the use of anti-Asian terminology and rhetoric related to COVID-19, such as the "Chinese Virus", "Wuhan Virus", and "Kung-flu" have perpetuated anti-Asian stigma; and

WHEREAS, the use of anti-Asian rhetoric has resulted in Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, immigrants and refugees suffering acts of harassment, hate crimes, and discrimination due to fears of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Asian and Pacific Islander communities and all bystanders whether or not they are Asian or Pacific Islander are encouraged to report incidents so that steps can be taken to prevent and stop these types of discriminatory and hateful behaviors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora calls on the Aurora Police Department to continue its practice of expeditiously investigating and documenting all credible reports of hate crime incidents and threats against Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, immigrants and refugees; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora encourages all other state and local law enforcement officials to expeditiously investigate and document all credible reports of hate crime incidents and threats against Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, immigrants, and refugees; and

WHEREAS, it is important for the City of Aurora to support and commit to the well-being and safety of its Asian and Pacific Islander communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora will continue its efforts to prevent hate crimes against Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, immigrants, and refugees related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora is comprised of multicultural and diverse communities and all its residents deserve to feel safe and welcome.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO:

Section 1. The City Council condemns hate crime acts and anti-Asian sentiments committed against Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, immigrants, and refugees and seeks to unify the City of Aurora and all communities in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Section 2. The City Council encourages all cities, counties, and local governments across the United States to adopt similar commitments to reaffirm their solidarity with their Asian and Pacific Islander communities and commit to combatting hate crimes targeting Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, immigrants and refugees as related to COVID-19 pandemic.

Section 3. All resolutions or parts of resolutions of the City in conflict herewith are hereby rescinded.

RESOLVED AND PASSED this 4th day of May, 2020.



MIKE COFFMAN, Mayor

ATTEST:



STEPHEN J. RUGER, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Angela L. Garcia, Assistant City Attorney