

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month, observed each May, is a celebration highlighting the diverse history and cultures of Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders throughout the United States. AANHPI contributions have and continue to impact American life in all aspects, from science and medicine, literature and art, sports and recreation, government and politics to activism and law.

WHEREAS, This commemoration, first known as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, was signed into law as a joint resolution by President Jimmy Carter in 1978. Twelve years later, Congress expanded the observance from a week to a month. In 1992, President George H.W. Bush designated May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month. In 2009, during the Barack Obama Presidential Administration, this tribute was renamed Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. On April 30, 2021, President Joe Biden signed Proclamation 10189, recognizing the month of May as Asian Americans, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

WHEREAS The month of May was selected to acknowledge the first Japanese immigrants to America on May 7, 1843, and the completion of the first transcontinental railroad in the States by Chinese laborers on May 10, 1869, also known as Golden Spike Day.

WHEREAS, The 2024 AAPI Heritage Month theme is Advancing Leaders Through Innovation, a continuation of the Advancing Leaders' series that began in 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANGELA BIRNEY, Mayor of the City of Redmond, Washington, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as:

ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

and encourage everyone to recognize this month by acknowledging the numerous and longstanding contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders throughout the history of the United States.



Angela Birney, Mayor
May 2024