



Proclamation

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has seen an unprecedented spread with devastating effects across countries, communities, and cultures, including throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the City of Merced is fully committed to the safety, security, and equal treatment of its residents as it confronts the COVID-19 pandemic but recognizes that it has had a disproportionate impact on marginalized communities, including communities of color; and

WHEREAS, each individual has the ability to promote inclusiveness, celebrate diversity, support all fellow community members, prevent the spread of misinformation, and reject hate and bias in all forms; and

WHEREAS, hate crimes, discrimination, and aggression against Asians and Asian American communities are on the rise throughout the country as they are being blamed for the COVID-19 outbreak and spread; and

WHEREAS, the City of Merced wishes to affirm its commitment to the well-being and safety of its Asian American community members and ensure they know they are not alone and the City is committed to ending the spread of all forms of hate and bigotry; and

WHEREAS, the City of Merced urges residents to join us in calling attention to these harms and denouncing hate to help keep us safe during this unprecedented pandemic and beyond.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Matthew Serratto, Mayor of the City of Merced, do hereby proclaim that racism against Asians and Asian Americans should not be tolerated in any form and urge all citizens to interrupt instances of racism and intolerance by speaking up in support of equity, justice and inclusion.

Signed this 3rd day of May, 2021

Matthew Serratto, Mayor of Merced