

CITY OF OAKLAND

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REBECCA KAPLAN NIKKI FORTUNATO BAS

Vice Mayor Council President

District At-Large District 2

Date: May 25, 2022

To: Members of City Council and Members of the Public From: Vice Mayor Kaplan and Council President Fortunato Bas

Re: Queer And Transgender Asian And Pacific Islander (QTAPI) Week

Dear Colleagues on the City Council and Members of the Public,

As we transition from the month of May - when we celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month - to the month of June - when we celebrate Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer+ (LGBTQ+) Pride Month - please join myself and Council President Fortunato Bas in celebrating Queer and Transgender Asian and Pacific Islander (QTAPI) Week from May 29 through June 4, 2022.

This resolution shines a light on Oakland's resilient and thriving QTAPI community. QTAPI Week is a time to reflect on the strength of the Asian American community in the face of continued hardships, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic where explicit acts of violence against the AAPI community are at an all time high. It is also a time to celebrate intersectional identities as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We know QTAPI people are impacted by unjust systems, and there has been a long documented history of QTAPI people in the Bay Area being subjugated to discrimination.

In the wake of these challenges, community-based organizations across the QTAPI spectrum have provided support, advocacy, and health and safety services to the Bay Area QTAPI community for over 45 years. Newer grassroots organizations formed at the turn of the millennium have continued to respond to ongoing systems of oppression by supporting and organizing QTAPI people in the Bay Area. For example, the Bay Area QTAPI Coalition includes organizations and community groups such as Lavender Phoenix (formerly API Equality Northern California (APIENC)), Asian Pacific Islander Queer Women & Transgender Community (APIQWTC), GLBTQ+ Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA), Parivar Bay Area, Prism Foundation, Red Envelope Giving Circle, API Transmasculine Anthology, GLBT Historical Society, San Francisco Community Health Center, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Essense of Mana, North County Outreach, RIZE SF, and members of the Rice Rockettes.

This resolution honors all of these organizations and the individuals who make them great. We commend the Bay Area QTAPI Coalition for organizing, mobilizing, and inspiring our QTAPI community, and for uplifting the numerous contributions made by the QTAPI community locally, nationally, and globally.