



Proclamation

WHEREAS the month of May is nationally recognized as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month in honor of the contributions made by AANHPI individuals and communities throughout American history; and

WHEREAS more than 15% of Montgomery County residents identify as Asian American or Pacific Islander, representing culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and numerous countries of origin; and

WHEREAS the theme chosen for this year's AANHPI Heritage Month is "Advancing Leaders Through Collaboration," to encourage the development of leaders who celebrate and promote diversity, transparency, and inclusivity; and

WHEREAS AANHPI people of all backgrounds have made and continue to make innumerable contributions to the growth and strength of Montgomery County and are leading efforts to foster a more equitable future for all residents; and

WHEREAS while we celebrate the achievements of AANHPI individuals, we recognize that Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have long faced racism, xenophobia, harassment and violence, injustices which have increased during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS despite their contributions and leadership, AANHPI individuals have been consistently overlooked and undervalued in the study of American history; and

WHEREAS Montgomery Planning is committed to mitigating these past inequities and deepening its understanding of AANHPI heritage.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montgomery County Planning Board hereby recognizes May as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and commits to embracing and celebrating the diversity of Montgomery County's cultural heritage.

Presented on this 5th day of May in the year 2022.

Casey Anderson, Chair
Montgomery County Planning Board