

**RESOLUTION NO 2021-03**

**VILLAGE OF COTTAGE GROVE**

**IN SUPPORT OF ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY**

**Whereas**, the Village of Cottage Grove is dedicated to honoring diversity, including our residents of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, a group that has contributed and continues to contribute to our country’s progress, culture and success; and

**Whereas**, for more than a year, there has been a documented nationwide, statewide and county-wide trend of increased discrimination, hate and violence against Asian-Americans – from young adults to our most vulnerable elderly – exacerbated by false narratives and xenophobia related to COVID-19; and

**Whereas**, these reprehensible displays of hate have often gone unnoticed and unreported, perpetuating a “model minority” myth that Asians will be complacent and stay silent, even when targeted and harmed; and

**Whereas**, hate, violence and bias are not accepted in our community, especially when targeting or scapegoating individuals based on their race or identity; and

**Whereas**, the Village of Cottage Grove remains committed to be a welcoming community to all; and

**Whereas**, each of us has a personal responsibility to prevent the spread of misinformation, condemn violent acts in any form, to support all fellow community members, and reject stigma, hate and bias in all its forms; and

**Whereas**, the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee and Village Board will continue to put forth efforts and opportunities to combat this virulent type of racism, intolerance, and xenophobia and to protect all members of our community, especially from crimes based on the race or identity of residents and visitors; and

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that the Village of Cottage Grove, hereby proclaims our renewed and ongoing commitment to be a diverse, equitable and inclusive community free from racism, so all who live, visit and work in Cottage Grove feel welcomed; and

**Be It Further Resolved that** the Village of Cottage Grove strongly stands against hate, bias or violence based on race, nationality, gender, disability, or religion, and we urge all residents to unite together in solidarity with our Asian American and Pacific Islander neighbors.

**VILAGE OF COTTAGE GROVE**

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John Williams, Village President

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Sarah Valencia, Village Trustee and  
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee Chair

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Troy Allen, Village Trustee

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Heidi Murphy, Village Trustee

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David Peterson, Village Trustee

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Melissa Ratcliff, Village Trustee

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Paul Vander Velde, Village Trustee

Attest:

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Lisa Kalata, Clerk