



## PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** each year, the United States observes Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month by celebrating the cultures, traditions, histories, heritage, and countless contributions of Asians and Pacific Islanders. The umbrella terms Asian American and Pacific Islander encompasses people with ancestry from what is today known as the Asian continent, the Pacific islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia; and
- WHEREAS,** the observation began in 1992, when Congress passed Public Law 102-450 which annually designated May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month. The month of May was chosen to commemorate the arrival of the first known Japanese immigrant to the United States on May 7, 1843. It also honors the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, which approximately 20,000 Chinese immigrant workers help to construct; and
- WHEREAS,** May 1 - May 31 is recognized as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month to honor the invaluable ways Asian American and Pacific Islanders have contribute to our common goals, to celebrate their diverse and rich cultures, and to together work towards a stronger, more inclusive, and more prosperous society for all; and
- WHEREAS,** this year's theme, "**Renew and Rebuild: Our Communities and Beyond**" encourages us to reflect on the systemic barriers faced by the Asian American and Pacific Islander community and work still to be done; and
- WHEREAS,** Asian Americans and Pacific islanders represent 36% of the City of Redmond's community. They are our neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family. For this reason, we reject incidents of bias, harassment, or hate that endanger our commitment to embracing the principles of a welcoming community; and
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANGELA BIRNEY,** Mayor of the City of Redmond, Washington, do hereby proclaim May 1 through May 31, 2022, as

### ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

in the City of Redmond and encourage our community to join us in rejecting all forms of hate and bias that stand in the way of our inclusive and welcoming city AND celebrate the great contributions of Asian American and Pacific Islanders to our city, state, and nation.

  
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Angela Birney, Mayor

May 1, 2022  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date