

# PROCLAMATION

## *Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month*

**WHEREAS**, the month of May was chosen as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese citizen, Nakahama Manjiro, to the United States on May 7, 1843, but also the anniversary of the May 10, 1869, completion of the first Transcontinental Railroad, built with the back-breaking labor of nearly 20,000 Chinese immigrants; and

**WHEREAS**, while we celebrate the achievements and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders that enrich our history, society, and culture, we must also acknowledge a darker aspect of the AAPI experience in America - structural discrimination, prejudice and injustice that manifested itself in racist attacks on Asian Americans related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

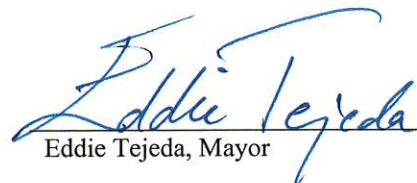
**WHEREAS**, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have distinguished themselves as leading researchers in science, medicine, and technology; innovative farmers and ranchers; distinguished lawyers, judges and government leaders; in the arts, literature, and sports; as war heroes who defended our country from fascism; and as peacetime healthcare heroes; and

**WHEREAS**, today more than 20 million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders live in the United States and through their actions, make America a more vibrant, prosperous, and secure nation;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Redlands does hereby proclaim May 2023 as *Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month* in the City of Redlands and encourages residents, businesses, and institutions to learn more about Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage, and work to combat racism and xenophobia as we celebrate this month.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we hereunto affix our signatures and Official Seal of the City of Redlands on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2023.



  
Eddie Tejada, Mayor

Attest:

  
Jeanne Donaldson, City Clerk