

PROCLAMATION

City of Monrovia

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 Transcontinental Railroad which was built by the hands of nearly 20,000 Chinese immigrants; and

WHEREAS, Monrovia's population is more than 17 percent Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI), by 2020 Census estimates, and includes devoted community members, artists, business owners, educators, health care professionals, lawyers, clergy, first responders and/or military personnel; and

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

WHEREAS, today more than 25 million Asian American Pacific Islanders live in the United States and through their actions, make America a more vibrant, beautiful, prosperous, and secure nation;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Becky Shevlin, Mayor of the City of Monrovia, along with the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 as

"Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month"

in Monrovia and encourage all Monroviaans to learn more about Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage, and work to combat racism and xenophobia.

~ Dated this 5th day of May, 2026 ~

