

Proclamation

Issued By The Mayor

PROCLAMATION AGAINST RACISM AND XENOPHOBIA RELATED TO COVID-19

WHEREAS, according to recent US Census population estimates, approximately 30 percent of Alameda County's 1.6 million residents are of Asian heritage, and over 32% of San Leandro's residents are of Asian heritage as well, compared with 15.3 percent statewide; and

WHEREAS, fear and uncertainty related to Covid-19, coupled with negative political rhetoric at the national level, has led to increases in acts of racism, stigmatization, and even violence against certain groups, notably Asian Americans; and

WHEREAS, stigmatization represents a threat to our collective response to the pandemic. It furthers dangerous and false information about how the coronavirus is spread, misinforms people's perceptions, and risks repeating mistakes made during past emergencies in American history when xenophobic sentiment targeted vulnerable groups; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention asserts that stigma associated with COVID-19 may currently be affecting certain groups, in particular persons of Asian descent, people who have traveled abroad, and emergency responders or healthcare professionals; and

WHEREAS, the City routinely celebrates its cultural diversity through numerous programs and public events each year, demonstrating pride for its rich diversity that includes a large population of foreign-born residents, including many from Asia.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pauline Russo Cutter, Mayor of the City of San Leandro, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim the City of San Leandro united against racism and xenophobia during the COVID-19 pandemic and every day, and further encourage San Leandrans to come together and unite as we get through this challenging situation as a community.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of San Leandro to be affixed this eighteenth day of May 2020.
