



**A PROCLAMATION IN CELEBRATION OF  
ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER  
HERITAGE MONTH**

**WHEREAS** Metro Parks deeply values the contributions that our Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AA and NHPI) community members make to Tacoma’s social, economic, physical, and cultural well-being, and

**WHEREAS** we remember injustices in our history through Chinese Reconciliation Park, which memorializes the riot of 1885 when 200 Chinese immigrants were forced to leave their Tacoma homes and businesses by force of a mob, and

**WHEREAS** downtown Tacoma’s Japantown flourished until the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1942 when 872 Japanese American community members were forced to Camp Harmony on the Puyallup fairgrounds before being transferred to internment camps. And, after World War II, only 174 returned to Tacoma, and

**WHEREAS** Metro Parks joins our nation in honoring the members of AA and NHPI communities who - for generations - have helped build our nation’s infrastructure and create a richly diverse and robust society, and

**WHEREAS** Metro Parks celebrates the AA and NHPI community, which makes up 10 percent of Tacoma’s population and is the second largest and fastest growing ethnic population in Washington state, and

**WHEREAS** we honor our partnership with Asia Pacific Cultural Center (APCC), which has served Tacoma for more than 26 years providing authentic, culturally rich and relevant activities, events and educational experiences, and

**WHEREAS** APCC reflects the rich heritage of 47 Asian and Pacific Island customers, cultures and traditions and strives to be a dynamic, inclusive hub for all communities, cultures, and generations, and

**WHEREAS** APCC is moving into its new cultural center building that will allow them to broaden their programming and expand the number of community members it serves, and

**WHEREAS** Metro Parks hosted a Tet Festival at the Eastside Community Center to celebrate the Vietnamese lunar new year, which was attended by more than 1,500 people and educated people on Vietnamese customs, music and cultural performances, and

**WHEREAS** Metro Parks is committed to support and strengthen our Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander community through our continued partnership with the Asia Pacific Cultural Center, and

**WHEREAS** we encourage all Tacoma residents to continue battling racism and build a community that is more just, peaceful, and offers healing and a safe place to live for all communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Park Commissioners, hereby recognize and honor May as Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month. The foregoing proclamation was adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma at a regularly scheduled meeting held on May 8, 2023.

ATTEST:

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Board President

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Board Clerk