



**CITY OF ELK GROVE
CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT**

AGENDA TITLE: Consider a resolution condemning and combating hate, violence, racism, xenophobia, and intolerance against Asian American Pacific Islanders, support related legislative bills, and promote the Stop AAPI Hate movement

MEETING DATE: March 24, 2021

PREPARED BY: Kara Reddig, Deputy City Manager

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Jason Behrmann, City Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends that the City Council receive information from staff and adopt a resolution condemning and combating hate violence, racism, xenophobia, and intolerance against Asian American Pacific Islanders (AAPI), support related legislative bills, and promote the Stop AAPI Hate movement.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On February 24, 2021, the Mayor and City Council directed staff to return with a Proclamation and legislative action denouncing hate crimes against the AAPI community. These crimes have become increasingly common across the United States and have grown in frequency since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Elk Grove is a very diverse community that celebrates and embraces the various races/ethnicities who call Elk Grove home. The City's most recent race/ethnicity demographics are as follows:

White	34%
Asian	28%
Hispanic or Latino	18%
Black or African American	11%
Two or more races	6%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	2%
American Indian and Alaska Native	<1%
Other race	<1%

The Elk Grove City Council originally proclaimed Elk Grove a “No Place for Hate” city in September 2016. Elk Grove has created and promotes the No Place for Hate message through social media, digital and print communications, and events throughout the year with the assistance of the City’s Diversity and Inclusion Commission.

Elk Grove is a community that stands against hate and wants residents and business owners to know they are not alone in this stance. No one should be the target of any form of hate.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:

There are a variety of bills and resolutions moving through the California Legislature that address this issue, which include:

Assembly Bill (AB) 886 – (Bonta) Hate Violence Victim Support: This bill is a multi-faceted response to the recent surge in incidents of hate violence against the AAPI community and increases in hate crimes against many groups in recent years. AB 886 would fund community-based organizations that facilitate culturally competent and mental health services for victims of hate violence and restorative justice programs. AB 886 would also expand the eligibility for victims of hate violence to access victim compensation funds and not be denied solely because the victim did not file a police report. *(Bill Status – as of the writing of this staff report, the bill has been referred to the Assembly Public Safety Committee. The bill language will most likely be amended prior to the first hearing to reflect this language).*

AB 85 Budget Trailer Bill: The Governor signed AB 85, a budget trailer bill, that included \$1.4 million in funding to bolster the research and reporting work in response to the recent wave of hate incidents targeting the AAPI

community. The money will be used to support the research of Stop AAPI Hate and help the organization track anti-Asian incidents, which have increased during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Stop AAPI Hate – website: <https://stopaapihate.org/>

The Asian Pacific Planning and Policy Council (A3PCON), Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA), and the Asian American Studies Department of San Francisco State University launched the Stop AAPI Hate reporting center on March 19, 2020. The center tracks and responds to incidents of hate, violence, harassment, discrimination, shunning, and child bullying against the AAPI community in the U.S.

California House Resolution (HR) 23 and Senate Resolution (SR) 12

House Resolution 23, which was adopted by the California State Assembly on February 16, 2021, and California Senate Resolution 12, which was adopted by the California State Senate on March 18, 2021, both declare that the respective houses denounce hate crimes, hateful rhetoric, and hateful acts against Asian American Pacific Islanders. Both bills also serve to ensure that those individuals feel safe and welcome, both during this COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

Diversity and Inclusion Commission

On Tuesday, March 16, 2021, staff presented the draft resolution to the City's Diversity and Inclusion Commission for review and input. The Commission is supportive of the resolution with slight modifications, as well as the recommendations in the staff report to support AB 886 and other related bills. The Commission is also supportive of the recommendation to promote the Stop AAPI Hate website. Commission members are very concerned with the national rise in crimes against the AAPI community and are looking for ways to support this community and combat violence.

Staff recommends the following actions:

- Adopt a resolution condemning and combating hate violence, racism, xenophobia, and intolerance against Asian American Pacific Islanders (AAPI), with or without modifications.
- Direct staff to write letters of support for AB 886 and other related bills.
- Promote the Stop AAPI Hate website through the City's Diversity and Inclusion Commission members, as well as through the City's website and social media channels.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution
2. AB 886 – (Bonta) Hate Violence Victim Support Fact Sheet
3. HR 23
4. SR 12

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELK GROVE
CONDEMNING AND COMBATING HATE VIOLENCE, RACISM, XENOPHOBIA, AND
INTOLERANCE AGAINST ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDERS**

WHEREAS, as a diverse and inclusive community, the City of Elk Grove (City) recognizes the dignity of all its residents, the contributions of both immigrants and native-born individuals, and the importance of preserving and protecting this diversity; and

WHEREAS, the Elk Grove City Council originally proclaimed the City of Elk Grove as “No Place for Hate” on September 28, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the City of Elk Grove wishes to ensure that everyone is welcomed within its boundaries, and that the City will protect and preserve the rights, freedoms, safety, and security of all individuals; and

WHEREAS, racism and violence against the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, AAPI individuals in the State of California are increasingly concerned about their safety and well-being, given the rise of hate crimes and other racially motivated attacks; and

WHEREAS, the City supports development of local, state and national solutions that offer restorative justice, address hate-violence, care for victims, and restore community safety; and

WHEREAS, the City will work to ensure that all members of the Elk Grove community – no matter their background, the language they speak, or their religious beliefs – are treated with dignity and equity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove does hereby declare that Elk Grove is a *City Welcome to All* and commits to finding community-led solutions to ensure that the experiences of the various cultures and communities that call Elk Grove home are acknowledged, and further commits to working to root out systemic racism and to uplift each other in racial solidarity;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove does hereby adopt this Resolution condemning and combating hate violence, racism, xenophobia, and intolerance against Asian American Pacific Islanders;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove will support legislative bills denouncing hate crimes and violence, as well as promote resources such as the Stop AAPI Hate website at www.stopaapihate.org, which tracks and responds to incidents of hate, violence, harassment, discrimination, shunning, and child bullying against the AAPI community in the U.S.;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Elk Grove does hereby commit to working to ensure that all Elk Grove residents feel safe and welcome, both during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Elk Grove this 24th day of March 2021

BOBBIE SINGH-ALLEN, MAYOR of the
CITY OF ELK GROVE

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JASON LINDGREN, CITY CLERK

JONATHAN P. HOBBS
CITY ATTORNEY



AB 886 (Bonta) – Hate Violence Victim Support

SUMMARY

This bill is a multi-faceted response to the recent surge in incidents of hate violence directed at Asian Americans and increases in hate crimes against many groups in recent years. AB 886 would fund community-based organizations that facilitate culturally competent and mental health services for victims of hate violence and restorative justice programs. AB 886 would also expand the eligibility for victims of hate violence to access victim compensation funds and not be denied solely because the victim did not file a police report.

BACKGROUND

Due to the underfunding of services for vulnerable communities and of training for mental health providers to serve diverse communities, it is difficult for many survivors of hate violence to access culturally competent and language accessible mental health services.

At present, the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board administers the California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP) and is authorized to compensate victims and derivative victims of specified types of crimes through a continuously appropriated fund, the Restitution Fund. Existing law sets that victims of hate violence are required to file a police report when applying to the victim compensation funds. This creates a barrier for victims of hate violence to receive funds and start their recovery.

THE NEED FOR THE BILL

The history of hate violence against Asian Americans in the U.S. is not new. Unfortunately, violence against Asian Americans has been on the rise due to a climate of fear, xenophobia, and racism during the COVID-19 pandemic, perpetuated by the highest echelons of government.

This bill is a community-centered solution to address hate violence, allocate resources to victims, and restore our community’s safety. All communities deserved to be seen, to be valued, and to be protected. The pain, hurt, and anger is heard. The state must call out hate violence and take legislative actions.

THIS BILL

AB 886 takes urgent and necessary steps to address the recent rise of hate violence towards Asian Americans. Specifically, AB 886 will:

- Support and fund restorative justice programs.
 - This approach addresses the victim’s needs and provides the individual who caused the harm with the tools not to recidivate.
- Increase funding for culturally competent and mental health services for victims.
 - This will expand access for victims of hate violence to services needed to recover from their trauma.
- Ensure that victims of hate violence are not denied victim compensation from the California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP) because they did not file a police report.

SUPPORT

Asian Americans Advancing Justice – California (AAAJ-CA) (Sponsor)
 Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI)
 Asian American Pacific Islander Women Lead (AAPI Women Lead)
 Asian Pacific Islander Equality Northern California (APIENC)
 Arab Resource & Organizing Center (AROC)
 Asian Law Alliance

Bay Rising
Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco
Chinese for Affirmative Action
Family Bridges
Japanese American Citizens League – Berkeley,
Florin, Placer County, Sacramento Chapters and
Northern California Western Nevada Pacific
District (JAACL)
Korean Community Center of the East Bay
Oakland Asian Cultural Center
Project by Project, San Francisco

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Jordan Panana Carbajal
Legislative Aide
Office of Assemblymember Rob Bonta
916-319-2018
Jordan.PananaCarbajal@asm.ca.gov

House Resolution**No. 23****Introduced by Assembly Member Low**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bonta, Chau, Chiu, Choi, Kalra, Lee, ~~and Muratsuchi~~ *Muratsuchi, Aguiar-Curry, Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bigelow, Bloom, Boerner Horvath, Burke, Calderon, Carrillo, Cervantes, Cooley, Cooper, Cunningham, Megan Dahle, Fong, Friedman, Gabriel, Eduardo Garcia, Gipson, Lorena Gonzalez, Gray, Grayson, Holden, Irwin, Jones-Sawyer, Kamlager, Kiley, Lackey, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, McCarty, Medina, Mullin, Nazarian, O'Donnell, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Rendon, Reyes, Luz Rivas, Robert Rivas, Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Salas, Santiago, Smith, Stone, Ting, Valladares, Villapudua, Voepel, Waldron, Ward, Wicks, and Wood*)

February 12, 2021

House Resolution No. 23—Relative to hate crimes.

1 WHEREAS, The Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council
 2 and Chinese for Affirmative Action launched a hate
 3 incident-reporting internet website, titled “Stop AAPI Hate,” at
 4 the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in March of 2020; and

5 WHEREAS, The Stop AAPI Hate reporting center documented
 6 over 2,800 hate incidents against Asian Pacific Islander (API)
 7 Americans in 2020; and

8 WHEREAS, Over 700 of these incidents occurred in the bay
 9 area of California; and

10 WHEREAS, Racism toward APIs has always existed, such as
 11 the 19th-century scapegoating of APIs, also known as the “Yellow
 12 Peril”; and

1 WHEREAS, Racism against APIs has been exacerbated by the
2 COVID-19 pandemic; and

3 WHEREAS, Politically charged and culturally insensitive
4 rhetoric referring to COVID-19 as the “Chinese virus” or “kung
5 flu” further encourages racism, prejudice, and hate crimes against
6 APIs; and

7 WHEREAS, The promotion of such language by former
8 President Donald Trump during his term further propagated
9 anti-API sentiments in light of COVID-19; and

10 WHEREAS, On January 31, 2021, three elderly Asian
11 Americans were assaulted in the City of Oakland’s Chinatown
12 District, including a 91-year-old Asian man who sustained serious
13 injuries, such as lacerations, abrasions, and a contusion to the left
14 thumb, in what is deemed a hate crime; and

15 WHEREAS, On January 30, 2021, 84-year-old Vicha
16 Ratanapakdee, a nearly-blind and gentle elderly Thai man, died
17 from injuries resulting from an attack while he was walking in the
18 City of San Francisco, in what is deemed as a hate crime; and

19 WHEREAS, About 31 percent of Asian Americans report having
20 been subject to discrimination since the beginning of the
21 COVID-19 pandemic, according to a Pew Research Center report;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Asian Americans in the State of California are
24 increasingly concerned about their safety and well-being, given
25 the rise of hate crimes and other racially motivated attacks; and

26 WHEREAS, In 2020, the California State Legislature’s API
27 Legislative Caucus made efforts toward defending immigrant and
28 refugee communities, engaged with hundreds of people to discuss
29 xenophobia, and spoke out against anti-API hate incidents and
30 hate crimes, while confronting realities of a worldwide pandemic;
31 now, therefore, be it

32 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That the*
33 *Assembly denounces hate crimes, hateful rhetoric, and hateful acts*
34 *against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and works to ensure*
35 *that APIs feel safe and welcome, both during this COVID-19*
36 *pandemic and beyond; and be it further*

1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
2 of this resolution to the Governor, and to the author for appropriate
3 distribution.

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6 **REVISIONS:** _____

7 **Heading—Line 3.**

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AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 5, 2021

Senate Resolution**No. 12**

**Introduced by Senator Min
(Coauthor: Senator Pan)**

February 16, 2021

Senate Resolution No. 12—Relative to hate crimes.

1 WHEREAS, The Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council
 2 and Chinese for Affirmative Action launched a hate
 3 incident-reporting internet website, titled “Stop AAPI Hate,” at
 4 the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in March of 2020; and
 5 WHEREAS, The Stop AAPI Hate reporting center documented
 6 over 2,800 hate incidents nationally against Asian Pacific Islander
 7 (API) Americans in 2020; and
 8 WHEREAS, Over 700 of these incidents occurred in the bay
 9 area of California; and
 10 WHEREAS, Racism toward APIs has always existed, such as
 11 the 19th-century scapegoating of APIs, also known as the “Yellow
 12 Peril”; and
 13 WHEREAS, Racism against APIs has been exacerbated by the
 14 COVID-19 pandemic; and
 15 WHEREAS, Politically charged and culturally insensitive
 16 rhetoric referring to COVID-19 as the “Chinese virus” or “kung
 17 flu” further encourages racism, prejudice, and hate crimes against
 18 APIs; and
 19 WHEREAS, The promotion of such language by former
 20 President Donald Trump during his term further propagated
 21 anti-API sentiments in light of COVID-19; and
 22 WHEREAS, On January 31, 2021, three elderly—Asian
 23 Americans APIs were assaulted in the City of Oakland’s Chinatown

1 District, including a 91-year-old ~~Asian~~ *API* man who sustained
2 serious injuries, such as lacerations, abrasions, and a contusion to
3 the left thumb, in what is deemed a hate crime; and
4 WHEREAS, On January 30, 2021, 84-year-old Vicha
5 Ratanapakdee, a nearly-blind and gentle elderly Thai man, died
6 from injuries resulting from an attack while he was walking in the
7 City of San Francisco, in what is deemed as a hate crime; and
8 WHEREAS, About 31 percent of ~~Asian-Americans~~ *APIs* report
9 having been subject to discrimination since the beginning of the
10 COVID-19 pandemic, according to a Pew Research Center report;
11 and
12 WHEREAS, ~~Asian-Americans~~ *APIs* in the State of California
13 are increasingly concerned about their safety and well-being, given
14 the rise of hate crimes and other racially motivated attacks; and
15 WHEREAS, In 2020, the California State Legislature’s API
16 Legislative Caucus made efforts toward defending immigrant and
17 refugee communities, engaged with hundreds of people to discuss
18 xenophobia, and spoke out against anti-API hate incidents and
19 hate crimes, while confronting realities of a worldwide pandemic;
20 now, therefore, be it
21 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That the Senate
22 denounces hate crimes, hateful rhetoric, and hateful acts against
23 Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and works to ensure that
24 APIs feel safe and welcome, both during this COVID-19 pandemic
25 and beyond; and be it further
26 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
27 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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