

In Recognition of the 10th Annual Colorado Dragon Boat Festival at Sloan's Lake Park

Introduced by Council Member Sandoval

WHEREAS, in 2000, the Asian Pacific American community of Colorado initiated the first Dragon Boat Festival in Sloan's Lake Park whose mission is to build bridges of awareness, knowledge and understanding between the diverse Asian Pacific American communities and the general public through cultural education, leadership development and athletic competition; and

WHEREAS, the Festival was established as a way to strengthen the Asian Pacific American communities and educate the general public on the exciting international and ancient sport of dragon boat racing, along with cultural education, traditional and contemporary Asian performing arts, an Asian Marketplace, and ethnic food; and

WHEREAS, the popularity of the Festival is evident from the growth in attendance from 15,000 in 2001 to 100,000 in 2009, and growth in dragon boat race teams from 16 in 2001 to 48 in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the 2010 Colorado Dragon Boat Festival will be held on Saturday, July 24, and Sunday, July 25 at Sloan's Lake Park at Sheridan and West Byron Place; and

WHEREAS, the Festival's Opening Ceremony, which includes the boat eye-dotting ceremony performed under the supervision of the Priest to reawaken the spirits of the Dragon Boats before the races, will take place on Saturday, July 24, at 10:00 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, the Festival has brought national and international recognition to the City of Denver.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council hereby recognizes the 10th anniversary of the annual Dragon Boat Festival and encourages residents to take advantage of the opportunity to participate in the Festival, one of the wonderful events contributing to the richness of Denver's multi-cultural social fabric.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to the Colorado Dragon Boat Festival Operating Committee.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL_	2010
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	PRESIDENT