

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 23-0076 Celebrating Lunar New Year 2023

WHEREAS, we honor and recognize Lunar New year, which began on Sunday, January 22nd, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Lunar New Year is the biggest holiday of the year in many Asian communities with celebrations spanning the globe. Its importance is rooted deep in history and remains the most important occasion for generations of families to reunite and spend time together and celebrate; and

WHEREAS, this is a special time to remember the beauty of Denver's diversity and give recognition to many Denver's Asian communities, places and corridors that have made our city so special; and

WHEREAS, we believe that honoring our community's varied cultures, traditions and religions makes us a strong and vibrant city and that sharing and celebrating community-based festivals enhances the connection between residents and across generations showcasing the beauty of diverse heritages; and

WHEREAS, we must also recognize the pain and damage that discrimination and xenophobia have enacted upon our AAPI communities before, during and since the pandemic that we cannot and do not tolerate it and commit ourselves to being an active force in opposing these and other destructive acts that divide community; and

WHEREAS, Lunar new year is our opportunity to elevate the heritage, history, and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) who celebrate Lunar new year, whether they have called Denver home for many generations or are new to community; and

WHEREAS, the Far East Center, Little Saigon Business District, and Sakura Square are among our most treasured spaces and corridors and we look forward to celebrating and lifting up community in these and future spaces; and

WHEREAS, we invite all Denverites to learn, join, and celebrate with community throughout upcoming Lunar New Year celebrations as we usher in the Year of the Rabbit and Year of the Cat for our Vietnamese community.

Section 1. That the Council celebrates the week of January 22 through February 5, 2023, as "Lunar New Year Celebration Weeks in Denver," and wishes everyone who observes this holiday happiness, longevity, good fortune, prosperity, and a healthy new year.

Section 2. That the Secretary of Council shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation, and a copy hereof be forwarded to the Asian Chamber of Commerce and Community.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL January 23, 2023

_____ PRESIDENT