

Proclamation No. 19-0295 Honoring the *Vietnamese American Community of Colorado* in Denver

WHEREAS, the United States including the Denver Metro Area saw an influx of refugees and immigrants from Vietnam after the end of the Vietnam War and according to the 2010 Decennial Census, a quarter of Denver's Asian population identified as Vietnamese; and

WHEREAS, over the past decades, a growing and vibrant Vietnamese commercial district has emerged along South Federal Boulevard and in February 2014, with the leadership of business owners, the *Vietnamese American Community of Colorado*, Denver Asian Pacific American Commission and Denver City Councilman Paul López, the *Little Saigon Business District* was designated in the area, honoring Denver's Vietnamese people and culture; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of Vietnamese-Americans in Denver recognize the Freedom and Heritage Flag as the official symbol of the community and widely embrace it as a symbol of democracy and freedom; and

WHEREAS, every year, the *Vietnamese American Community of Colorado* commemorates and honors Vietnamese and U.S. Veterans that fought side-by-side during the Vietnam War, many giving the ultimate sacrifice for their freedom.

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

Section 1. That the Council of the City and County of Denver honor the rich history, culture and contributions of Vietnamese American Community to the Mile High City and recognizes its Freedom and Heritage Flag as the symbol of its people.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that copies be transmitted to the *Vietnamese American Community of Colorado* through Mr. Thang Le, President and Father Joseph Tung Dang, Community Liaison.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL March 26, 2019

PRESIDENT