

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

Proclamation

***RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ASIAN AMERICAN AND
PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH***

WHEREAS, the people of the United States and the State of New Jersey join together each May to pay tribute to the contributions of generations of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who have enriched the history of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States is inextricably tied to the story of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Asian American and Pacific Islander community is an inherently diverse population, composed of more than 45 distinct ethnicities and more than 100 language dialects; and

WHEREAS, according to the Bureau of the Census, the Asian American population grew faster than any other racial or ethnic group over the last decade; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 22,000,000 residents of the United States who identify as Asian and approximately 1,600,000 residents of the United States who identify as Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, making up nearly 7 percent of the total population of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the month of May was selected for Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage month because the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the United States on May 7, 1843, and the first transcontinental railroad was completed on May 10, 1869, with substantial contributions from Chinese immigrants; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Hopewell issues this proclamation calling on the people of Hopewell Township to observe the month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities; and

WHEREAS, this Proclamation recognizes the history, achievements, and diversity of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and the systemic barriers to economic justice, health equity, educational attainment and personal safety experienced by many in the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made significant contributions to the United States at all levels of the Federal, State and local Governments; and

WHEREAS, celebrating Asian American Pacific American Heritage Month provides the people of the United States and the State of New Jersey with an opportunity to recognize the achievements, contributions, and history of, and to understand the challenges faced by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer and State of New Jersey, proudly joins in recognizing the annual celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and continues our collective journey, as a community and nation, in honoring and deepening our knowledge of the history and contributions of Asian American and Pacific Islander members to the American economy, society, culture, freedoms and values.

Dated this 1st day of May, 2023



Michael Ruger
Mayor