

## OCA Asian Pacific American Advocates, New England Chapter 935 Great Plain Ave. #135 Needham, MA 02492

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Embracing the Hopes and Aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans

April 7, 2022

Dear Councilor Tarik Lucas and members of the Newton City Council:

We, the OCA APAA New England Chapter support the AAPI resolution offered by Tarik Lucas on behalf of Betty Chan and the Asian American and Pacific Islander residents of Newton. During these challenging and uncertain times for the AAPI across the country, we rely on strong support from our community to address pressing issues facing our local residents.

Whether the rise of Anti-Asian hate crimes is due to the Covid-19 pandemic, xenophobia or pure scapegoating, proper response and prevention is crucial. Through education, workshops, conversations and collaborations our New England Chapter is working tirelessly to dispel racist misconceptions that dangerously impact the most vulnerable members of our communities.

As leaders are tasked upon the duty to strongly advocate for our fellow citizens, we strongly believe the resolution should be adopted. Please stand with the members of the AAPI community, community partners and organizations. We respectfully urge you to swiftly pass this meaningful and impactful resolution.

Sincerely,

Denise Chan, President

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OCA Asian American Advocates New England