



WHEREAS, the Asian population makes up more than 20 percent of the Rockville population, according to census data; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders represent many nations and ethnicities, each with its own culture, heritage, language, and experience; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders of all backgrounds have been among the trailblazers and leaders who have sought civil rights and equal treatment for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Rockville Mayor and Council recognize and applaud the courage and sacrifice of over a million immigrants who traveled across the Pacific and arrived on Angel Island, and Chinese-American laborers, who risked their lives constructing the transcontinental railroad, and the Japanese-American troops who fought for our freedom in World War II while their families in the United States faced discrimination and internment due to their family origin; and

WHEREAS, in honor of Vincent Chin, who was brutally murdered in a hate crime in 1982, the AAPI community and others commemorate **Asian American and Pacific Islander Day Against Bullying and Hate** annually on May 18, Vincent's birthday; and

WHEREAS, during Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we celebrate the multiple ways that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have contributed to and enhanced our culture through artistry, activism, education, businesses, literature, military, and political involvement; and

WHEREAS, the Rockville Asian American and Pacific Islander Task Force serves as an important connection to and for the community, and engages our new and long-term Asian Americans and Pacific Islander residents, business owners, and visitors in the City's programs and services; and

WHEREAS, the City celebrates and assists this valued segment of our community throughout the year with the Lunar New Year Celebration, forums, special programs, and networking opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of Rockville, do hereby proclaim May 2026 as **Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month**, Rockville, Maryland, and encourage all residents to acknowledge, embrace, commemorate, and celebrate.




Monique Ashton, Mayor


Kate Fulton, Councilmember


Izola (Zola) Shaw, Councilmember


Barry Jackson, Councilmember


Manissa Valeri, Councilmember


David Myles, Councilmember


Adam Van Grack, Councilmember

May 4, 2026