

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on this 12th day of February in 2021, the people of Olympia join the commemoration of the first day of the Lunar New Year, which is observed in many Asian cultures around the world and by many Olympia residents, and lasting for varying amounts of time among each cultural group; and

WHEREAS, the Lunar New Year is an important cultural event when Asian Americans celebrate their customs and traditions with familial reunion, traditional clothing, foods, and spiritual practices; and

WHEREAS, Lunar New Year celebrations take place each year in the Olympia community, providing opportunities for all to take part in this enriching cultural experience; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia is dedicated to the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans are a vital constituent of the Olympia community and the Olympia population continues to grow in diversity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia embraces the many important cultural customs practiced within our community as we value the uniqueness of our community members; and

WHEREAS, recognizing cultural diversity enhances our community's understanding of one another, the different ways we make meaning and sense of the world around us, and nurtures the human spirit; and

WHEREAS, this is a time of joy and renewal as we reflect on our past successes and lessons learned and create new goals and objectives for the coming year; and

WHEREAS, in observation of this Lunar New Year, and according to the zodiac calendar observed in many Asian cultures, this year is designated as the Year of the Ox, an animal sign characterized by honesty, diligence, strength, and determination, qualities that our Council strives to emulate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Olympia City Council, does hereby proclaim February 12, 2021 as

LUNAR NEW YEAR

in the city of Olympia and encourages all residents to celebrate the richness of cultural heritage within our community and recognize the valuable contributions of Asian Americans to our community through recognition of the Lunar New Year. We wish happiness, longevity, and good fortune to everyone celebrating the Year of the Ox.

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 9th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021.

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL

Cheryl Selby, Mayor