Resolution Condemning Attacks and Discrimination Against Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities

WHEREAS, we are outraged about the rise in discrimination against and attacks on Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities since the onset of COVID-19 - including last week’s brutal shootings in Georgia that led to the deaths of eight people, six of whom were Asian American women; and

WHEREAS, these recent tragedies have once again shone a light on the impacts of white supremacy and systemic racism, and the current and historically disparate treatment of AAPI and other BIPOC people in our country; and

WHEREAS, as public servants we have a responsibility to call out hate and discrimination when we see it, and to promote our core American value that no one should be targeted because of their identity; and

WHEREAS the Montpelier City Council recognized that historical and ongoing systems and structures in our nation, state, and community perpetuate racism, sexism, heterosexism, classism, ableism, and other forms of injustice and oppression, and in response created the Montpelier Social and Economic Justice Advisory Committee which is working to help the City address and reshape the systems, policies and practices that perpetuate these barriers to social and economic justice in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Montpelier City Council prioritized the creation of an Inclusive, Equitable, and Engaged Community where all people are treated with respect and dignity in our 2020-2021 Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, we stand together to fight any form of bigotry, discrimination, or hate, in speech or action, against any group, from whatever the source;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montpelier City Council and Mayor wholeheartedly condemn the actions and injustices against the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities that are once again dividing and harming our community, state, and country; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Montpelier recommits to engaging our community members to address and uproot institutionalized racism and implicit bias and offer spaces for dialogue, trainings, and understanding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montpelier City Council and Mayor will strive to do everything in its power to make certain that Montpelier is, and will remain, an inclusive, equitable, and engaged city opposed to acts of racism and bigotry.