

EESW

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2025

RECOGNIZING Lunar New Year in the City of Cincinnati in honor of the City’s Asian American and Pacific Islander (“AAPI”) heritage and the AAPI community’s ongoing contribution to the City’s growth and prosperity.

WHEREAS, the City is proud to be home to a vibrant and growing Asian American and Pacific Islander (“AAPI”) population, whose cultural heritage, history, and contributions have greatly enriched the City’s social, economic, and cultural fabric; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Lunar New Year holds deep cultural significance for many in the AAPI community and represents a time of joy, renewal, and unity that resonates across generations; and

WHEREAS, the AAPI community has played an instrumental role in enriching the City’s cultural scene, including the creation and growth of Asian Food Fest, which attracts approximately 120,000 attendees annually and, having started in 2010, is now one of the largest festivals in the City, showcasing the diverse and rich culinary traditions of the AAPI community; and

WHEREAS, the creators of Asian Food Fest also have created Asianati, an organization dedicated to discovering and celebrating the diverse traditions, arts, and cultural experiences of the AAPI community and sharing the vibrant tapestry of AAPI culture in the Queen City; and

WHEREAS, Council seeks to uplift and support the City’s diverse communities, working together to create a City where all cultural heritages are celebrated and respected; and

WHEREAS, recognizing Lunar New Year honors the AAPI community’s contributions to the City, fostering greater understanding, appreciation, and inclusivity within the broader community; and

WHEREAS, the date of Lunar New Year is determined annually by the date on which a new moon begins nearest the midpoint between the winter solstice and the spring equinox, sometime between January 21 and February 20; and

WHEREAS, this year, Lunar New Year will begin on January 29; and

WHEREAS, residents, businesses, and organizations are encouraged to participate in and support celebrations, educational events, and cultural programs that highlight the significance of Lunar New Year; and

WHEREAS, acknowledging Lunar New Year aligns with the City’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and serves as a public demonstration of its dedication to supporting its AAPI residents and promoting intercultural awareness; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council recognize Lunar New Year as an annual event in the City in honor of the City's Asian American and Pacific Islander ("AAPI") heritage and the AAPI community's ongoing contribution to the City's growth and prosperity.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that a copy be provided to Asianati through the office of Councilmember Seth Walsh.

Passed: _____, 2025

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Submitted by Mayor Aftab Pureval, Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney, President Pro Tem and Councilmember Victoria Parks, and Councilmembers Seth Walsh, Anna Albi, Jeff Cramerding, Mark Jeffreys, Scotty Johnson, Evan Nolan, and Meeka Owens.