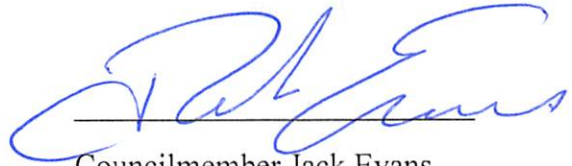




Chairman Phil Mendelson



Councilmember Jack Evans

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize the Chinese community in the District of Columbia for its generous and valued contributions to the social, cultural, and political life of the city and to honor the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association for its sponsorship of the parade to celebrate the Year of the Rat.

WHEREAS, Chinese people have lived in the District of Columbia as a community since at least 1884, when nearly 100 immigrants settled near 3rd Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., and remained there until 1935, when the settlement moved to its current location along H Street, N.W., which is commonly known as “Chinatown”;

WHEREAS, today there are more than 40 Chinese businesses and some 1,000 Chinese residents in Chinatown, which serves as the center of health care, dining, and shopping for the 40,000 Chinese residents in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area;

WHEREAS, Chinatown is a unique cultural and social center for the District, providing visitors with a taste of Chinese culture;

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia’s commitment to the Chinese community continues as the government strives to improve services for the Chinese community through the establishment of the Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, the Metropolitan Police Department’s Asian Liaison Unit in Chinatown, and the Chinatown Community Cultural Center, which we salute;

WHEREAS, thousands of District of Columbia residents will gather along H Street and 7th Street, N.W, on Sunday, January 26, 2020 to enjoy the dragon-led parade and celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year; and

WHEREAS, the annual anniversary celebration and parade for the Chinese Lunar New Year, sponsored by the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, is nationally known as one of the finest celebrations of color, art, and pageantry.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Chinese Lunar New Year 4718, Year of the Rat Recognition Resolution of 2020".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia salutes the Chinese community of the District of Columbia and the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association for their many contributions to the social, economic, cultural, and political life of the city. Further, the Council thanks the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association and the Parade Committee for sponsoring the parade to celebrate the Chinese New Year, and declares Sunday, January 26, 2020, as "Chinese Lunar New Year 4718, Year of the Rat Day" in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.