

# PROCLAMATION

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING

*January 2023 as Lunar New Year*

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**WHEREAS**, Lunar New Year, often referred to as the “Spring Festival” in various Asian cultures, began in China more than 4,000 years ago and is widely celebrated in East and Southeast Asia; and

**WHEREAS**, the traditional commonly known Lunar New Year Calendar celebrations begin Lunar New Year's Eve and end the 15th day of the first lunar month, while the Public Holiday is celebrated this year from the Chinese New Year's Eve, January 22nd to February 5th; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Year is celebrated uniquely within the many Asian and Pacific Islander cultures, but regardless of the country, culture, religion or race, New Year's Day is a time for Family -- family reunions, gatherings, reflection, and reaffirming bonds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chinese Lunar Calendar is made up of a cycle of twelve years, and each of them being named after an animal. 2023 is being celebrated as the Year of the Rabbit. The Rabbit is a symbol of longevity, peace and prosperity; and

**WHEREAS**, the first day of the New Year is a time to honor deities and ancestors. This tradition has been observed for centuries throughout different Asian and Pacific Islander cultures; and

**WHEREAS**, San Mateo County is incredibly diverse, with approximately 32.4 percent of the population being of Asian and Pacific Islander descent. As such, we must recognize the communities and join in celebrations of the many different AAPI cultures that are an integral part of the diversity of San Mateo County;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby designates January 2023 as Lunar New Year and encourages all citizens to celebrate the richness of cultural heritage within our community, and recognize the valuable contributions of the AAPI community.

**Dated:**

SUPERVISORS:

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DAVE PINE, PRESIDENT

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NOELIA CORZO

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RAY MUELLER

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WARREN SLOCUM

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DAVID J. CANEPA

Attest:

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Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors