

METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT of GREATER CHICAGO RESOLUTION

SPONSORED *by the* BOARD of COMMISSIONERS RECOGNIZING *the*

1st ANNIVERSARY *of the* 2021 ATLANTA-AREA SPA SHOOTINGS

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2021, a gunman entered three spas in Atlanta and the surrounding area and killed eight people and seriously injured one additional person; and

WHEREAS, of the eight people killed, six of them were of Asian descent. The significance of this event in the Asian community cannot be overstated; and

WHEREAS, anti-Asian sentiment has grown in recent years, due in part to the novel coronavirus pandemic and its association with China. Asian Americans have reported experiencing not only physical acts of violence, but also acts of discrimination; and

WHEREAS, a study recently published by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism found that while there was an eleven percent jump in suspected hate crimes overall in 2021, there was a 339 percent increase in suspected anti-Asian hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the increasing incidence of hate crimes against Asians, on May 20, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden signed an anti-Asian hate crime bill into law. The legislation authorized the

United States Department of Justice to expediate review of novel coronavirus pandemic related hate crimes and to improve methods of reporting of such crimes; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (District) supports the constitutional statement that all people are created equal and are thereby entitled to the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and happiness; and

WHEREAS, the expression of hate toward any group is dangerous. The District is committed to maintaining a diverse and inclusive environment where everyone is treated fairly; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, on behalf of ourselves and our staff, do hereby recognize the 1st anniversary of the 2021 Atlanta-area spa shootings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread upon the permanent Record of Proceedings of the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.



DATED THIS 17th DAY of MARCH, 2022.

BOARD of COMMISSIONERS

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