

From: [Clay Volino](#)
To: [BoardOperations](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2/6 Agenda Item #31 (LF#24-4250)
Date: Sunday, February 4, 2024 1:40:44 PM

Hi there,

Please find the below statement from Asm. Evan Low regarding Lunar New Year:

Lunar New Year is one of the most important holidays in China, Vietnam, South Korea, and other Asian countries. An official recognition by the County of Lunar New Year would help acknowledge the diversity and cultural significance that the Asian American and Pacific Islander community brings to Santa Clara County. Santa Clara County should join the state of California in recognizing Lunar New Year as a holiday. In the State Assembly, I wrote the bill to enshrine Lunar New Year as a state holiday, and I hope the Board of Supervisors will do the same.

From: [VIVO Board of Directors](#)
To: [BoardOperations](#)
Cc: [Supervisor.Lee](#); [Nguyen.The-vu](#); [Cao.Daniel](#); [Tam.Nguyen](#); [Bao.Trieu](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supporting 2/6 Agenda Item #31 (LF#24-4250) (Lunar New Year for County Holiday)
Date: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:12:45 AM

Dear SCC Board of Supervisors,

I am learning that there will be item #31 being considered by the Board in the coming meeting of Feb 6th, 2024:

- * **Agenda item #31 (LF#24-4250):**
- * **to declare Lunar New Year a County holiday**

On behalf of the Vietnamese Voluntary Foundation (VIVO), its Board of directors and its Staffs, and myself, residing and working in San Jose and Santa Clara County,

- * I would like to express my wholeheartedly support for this Agenda Item.
- * I would like to strongly ask for your consideration in voting **YES** for this Agenda Item.

Thank you and Regards,

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Bao Trieu
VIVO, President & CEO



Moorpark Office
Gordon N. Chan Community Services Center
2400 Moorpark Ave. Suite #300
San Jose, CA 95128

February 2, 2024

The Honorable Susan Ellenberg, President
and Members of the Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Clara
70 West Hedding Street
East Wing, 10th Floor
San José, CA 95110

Subject: Support for Agenda Item 31 (Lee)

Dear President Ellenberg and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI), I am writing to urge the Board of Supervisors to approve Supervisor Lee's referral to the Administration with options for consideration regarding the viability and costs associated with declaring Lunar New Year a County Holiday.

AACI is a community-based nonprofit organization that primarily offers health, behavioral health, and wellness services to low-income communities and communities of color in Santa Clara County. As an organization founded in 1973 to address the unmet needs of Southeast Asian refugees resettled in the area, we recognize the importance of culturally specific holidays as a means of celebrating the richness and diversity of Silicon Valley. Lunar New Year is one such holiday, widely celebrated by Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean communities, and is particularly significant amongst Asian Americans. The Holiday is also popular among various local organizations and groups that host annual events, bringing together many community members in celebration.

In Santa Clara County, Asian Americans account for 41.4% of the population. As of January 2024, nearly a third of the County's 24,000+ employees (coded and Extra Help) identify as Asian American or Pacific Islander. An official recognition by the County of Lunar New Year would help acknowledge the diversity and cultural significance that the Asian American and Pacific Islander community brings to Santa Clara County, similar to the County's holiday observances for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Cesar Chavez Day, and Juneteenth. A possible commemoration of the Lunar New Year as an official County holiday would be especially meaningful considering recent waves of hatred and violence toward Asian Americans that have escalated since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.



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AACI is proud to support and amplify efforts to declare Lunar New Year a holiday in Santa Clara County and is confident that such an acknowledgment would contribute positively to the safety, belonging, and meaningful integration of Asian American and Pacific Islander community members in the area. Silicon Valley has a proud history of embracing and celebrating diversity in our communities. We thank the Board of Supervisors for considering our request and look forward to continuing to work together toward creating a more inclusive and equitable community.

Sincerely,

Vaughn Villaverde, MPH
Director of Advocacy
AACI