[Lunar New Year 2021]

Resolution celebrating 2021 as Year of the Ox, and recognizing February 12, 2021, as the start of Lunar New Year 4719 in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, 2021 marks Lunar year 4719, the Year of the Ox, which begins on Friday, February 12, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Celebrations for the Lunar New Year begin with the New Moon on the first day of the new year and end on the full moon 15 days later; and

WHEREAS, The first Chinese New Year Parade took place in San Francisco's Chinatown in 1885 with a 15-day celebration and a block-long golden dragon preceded by the red pearl of potentiality; and

WHEREAS, In an effort to celebrate Chinatown and draw visitors to Chinese-owned businesses, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce transformed the Chinese New Year celebration into a Street Carnival at Portsmouth Square in 1953; and

WHEREAS, To further its efforts to promote Chinatown, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce launched the first Miss Chinatown, U.S.A. beauty pageant in 1958 as part of the New Year festivities; and

WHEREAS, The Chinese New Year parade draws larger crowd each year with increase of marching units and floats, and that to date, San Francisco Chinese New Year parade is the largest parade celebrating Chinese New Year in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, The celebration of Chinese New Year in San Francisco has become a cultural significance and its grand parade is now a recognized civic pride event of our city; and

WHEREAS, The annual Chinese New Year parade and almost month-long festivities has provided an economic boost to our local economy beyond Chinatown; and
WHEREAS, The Lunar New Year may be known as Chinese New Year, but it is also celebrated as Solnal in Korean communities, with the Tet Festival by the Vietnamese, and as Losar in Tibet; and

WHEREAS, The Lunar New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is a significant holiday for Asian families to gather together, honor their ancestors, welcome the New Year with hopes of prosperity and good health, and celebrate traditions and traditional foods; and

WHEREAS, During the COVID-19 pandemic, Lunar New Year themes of family, health and prosperity, and renewal are especially important, but it is critical that families celebrate in new ways in order to protect the most vulnerable in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Due to COVID-19 health orders, all long standing of Lunar New Year celebrations and festivities have been impacted and cancelled in 2021, the Year of the Ox; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco bids farewell to 2020, Year of the Rat, and commits to celebrate Asian families and Lunar New Year Festivities in accordance of the City’s public health orders; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco wishes all families good luck, prosperity, and continued good health in the Year of the Ox; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco celebrates 2021 as the Year of the Ox and recognizes February 12, 2021, as the start of Lunar New Year 4719.
Resolution celebrating 2021 as Year of the Ox, and recognizing February 12, 2021, as the start of Lunar New Year 4719 in the City and County of San Francisco.

February 23, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 2/23/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

3/5/2021

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

3/5/2021