

FIGHTING TO PROTECT CHINATOWNS AND ETHNIC ENCLAVES

WHEREAS, Chinatowns and Asian ethnic enclaves across the U.S. are and have been the cultural center of marginalized Asian American communities, often serving as a first landing place for vulnerable immigrants including low-wage workers and undocumented immigrants;

WHEREAS, Chinatowns are places where people share community, culture, and language that is under attack, and they are a crucial battlefield in the broader struggle for workers' rights and racial justice;

WHEREAS, ethnic enclaves are a critical resource for immigrants who speak their native languages more fluently than English, for workers who lack a social safety net or support network; and for elders seeking to live independently, especially in a time of rising anti-Asian racism;

WHEREAS, many Chinatowns have been destroyed by greedy developers and corporate capitalism that used stadiums, arenas, and highways to destroy Chinatown;

WHEREAS, the remaining Chinatowns have fought for their right to exist and mobilized their communities to protect these vibrant neighborhoods with deep cultural roots;

WHEREAS, racial justice in the labor movement demands that we show solidarity with Chinatowns seeking self-determination and fighting eradication by corporate developers, and protecting the rights and interests of AAPI workers must include safeguarding the unique character and integrity of Chinatowns;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, APALA will rise in solidarity with Chinatowns and ethnic enclaves fighting for their future and against gentrification, displacement, and cultural erasure;

RESOLVED, APALA will organize its members and allies to protect Chinatowns and ethnic enclaves, such as the Philadelphia Chinatown that is under threat by billionaire developers;

RESOLVED, APALA will bridge labor unions and AAPI community organizations to build stronger coalitions;

RESOLVED, APALA will educate and urge union leaders to speak out against billionaire proposals and politicians that would destroy our communities;

RESOLVED, APALA will oppose narratives and efforts that try to turn unions against vulnerable Asian and Asian American communities;

AND FINALLY RESOLVED, APALA will join local coalitions to support Chinatowns and Asian ethnic enclaves across the US.

Submitted by:

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