

Proclamation

Lunar New Year

WHEREAS, the City of Redwood City joins people throughout the world in celebrating Lunar New Year, a time-honored tradition observed across Asia and in communities globally, marking the beginning of the lunar calendar with hopes for renewed prosperity, happiness, and good fortune; and

WHEREAS, Lunar New Year is celebrated by millions of people, including Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and other Asian communities, with vibrant cultural traditions such as family reunions, ancestral remembrance, symbolic foods, music, dance, lanterns, and the exchange of red envelopes representing luck and blessings; and

WHEREAS, 2026 marks the Year of the Horse in the Chinese zodiac, a symbol of strength, perseverance, energy, and freedom qualities that reflect the resilience and determination of our community; and

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities have shaped our city, state, and nation through foundational contributions to our economic vitality, civic life, arts, sciences, education, public service, and cultural richness; and

WHEREAS, as we celebrate the many achievements, traditions, and leaders within AAPI communities, we also acknowledge the painful history of exclusion, violence, and discrimination these communities have endured, and we reaffirm our shared responsibility to confront racism in all its forms and to foster a city where all residents feel safe, valued, and respected; and

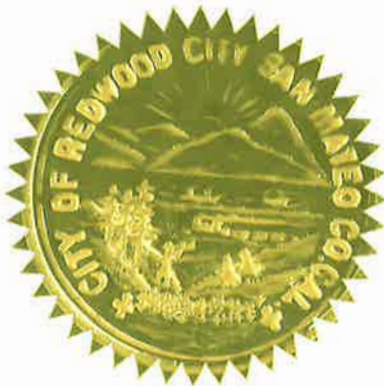
WHEREAS, the City of Redwood City is proud to have partnered with Redwood City International for the past 15 years to celebrate one of the most important holidays in Asian heritage through festive performances, traditional decorations, and symbolic foods, bringing neighbors together in the spirit of unity and good fortune; and

WHEREAS, Redwood City's strength lies in its diversity, and celebrations such as Lunar New Year reflect our ongoing commitment to inclusivity, cross-cultural understanding, and the joyful recognition of the many traditions that enrich our community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, ELMER MARTÍNEZ SABALLOS, MAYOR OF REDWOOD CITY, on behalf of the City Council and the people of the City of Redwood City, hereby recognizes and celebrates LUNAR NEW YEAR 2026 and every Lunar New Year thereafter, and extends warm wishes for health, happiness, prosperity, and peace to all who observe this special occasion.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that we encourage all residents to learn about and participate in the cultural traditions of Lunar New Year, to support our AAPI neighbors and businesses, and to continue building a welcoming and inclusive Redwood City for generations to come.

Date: February 23, 2026



Elmer Martinez Saballos, Mayor

Kaia Eakin, Vice Mayor

Isabella Chu, Council Member

Jeff Gee, Council Member

Diane Howard, Council Member

Marcella Padilla, Council Member

Chris Sturken, Council Member