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ASIAN PACIFIC POLICY & PLANNING COUNCIL

Dear A3PCON Community Members,

On Thursday, the [U.S. Supreme Court \(SCOTUS\) rejected President Trump's attempts to end Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals \(DACA\)](#). This is a huge victory for immigrant communities, DACA recipients and for all Americans that were affected when the Trump Administration announced the cessation of the program on September 5, 2016. Though, this victory comes after long fight - even before the valiant efforts of DACA recipients, their families advocates and attorneys.

On May 6, 2006, 500,000 Angelenos gathered in downtown Los Angeles to participate in "[A Day Without Immigrants](#)" march. To this day, it continues to be largest protest in the city's history. In addition to preventing the passage of [H.R. 4437](#), the federal bill making undocumented immigration a felony, the protest also had a significant impact in shifting the makeup of Congress that Fall. It galvanized a generation of Latinx young people who forever changed the political landscape and policymaking in California.

The protests we are seeing and participating in now can have that impact. In just the past three weeks, [hundreds of thousands of people across Southern California have marched against the killings of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor and more recently Rayshard Brooks](#). Hundreds of people have engaged in LA Police Commission meetings and LA City Council meetings to voice their opposition to systemic police violence, police budgets and lack of funding for necessary social services. Already, we have seen dramatic shifts in policy priorities from Mayor Garcetti and the LA City Council as the Healthy LA Coalition, which A3PCON is a member of, has demanded passage of the People's Budget.

We know that change takes time. Let us remember that it also takes significant effort. Today's SCOTUS decision reminds us that protests in the streets can and do lead to changes in policy, including fundamental shifts in judicial opinions. And today's protests – like the ones in 2006 – can activate people to vote, engage more with their elected officials and run for office.

Today is [Juneteenth](#). At A3PCON, we are taking this opportunity to reflect on what has been happening across our country in the past several months and over the past 400 years. The day reminds us that change was a long time in coming for enslaved Blacks in America. Even after the Emancipation Proclamation was made official on January 1, 1863, these individuals in Texas were not alerted to their freedom for two and a half years. It also reminds us to take the time to celebrate victories, small and large, on our long and arduous journey toward social justice. We hope you all will join us in reflection, celebration and continued activism.

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Executive Director

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