



ASIAN PACIFIC POLICY & PLANNING COUNCIL

Dear A3PCON Friends,

Officially signed into effect by [Governor Gavin Newsom](#) last night, the API Equity Budget has passed! A3PCON, in coalition with over 150 statewide organizations, wrote to legislators in support of the California API Legislative Caucus proposed the [API Equity Budget](#), as a way to build equity in API communities. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated systemic barriers for our communities and emboldened those who seek to divide to promote hate and violence that have severely harmed API Californians, devastated our historic API neighborhoods, and inflicted widespread and ongoing trauma.

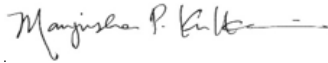
Over [6,600 incidents of anti-Asian hate](#) have been reported nationally since March 2020 – 40% of those incidents have come from California. API women are more than twice as likely to report a hate incident than API men, and the impact of this hate has disproportionately affected our elders and our young people.

The [API Equity Budget](#) offers a comprehensive, whole-community approach to the challenges facing our AAPI communities. The measure would fund victim services and violence prevention, disaggregated data collection and analysis, safer schools for AAPI students, and more. Here are the items that are included in the just-passed budget:

- \$110 million will go to community organizations who are providing vital victim services and prevention;
- \$10 million will provide support to Stop AAPI Hate to track, respond, and prevent to incidents of racial bias and harm;
- \$10 million will be allocated for to the AAPI Data project at UC Riverside, to increase accurate data collection and data equity on AAPI needs, challenges, and barriers;
- \$10 million will fund an anti-bias block grant to provide funding to schools to create restorative justice programs to address hate and microaggressions early on;
- \$10 million will be dedicated to ethnic media outlets to reach AAPI and other underserved communities in California;
- \$5 million will support a peer social media network project addressing bullying and mental health for children and youth; and
- \$1.5 million will support a workgroup to address education attainment for low income first generation AAPI college students.

The [API Equity Budget](#) is also notable because the majority of funding will go to community-based organizations that are closest to the issues and to those most impacted. Our lawmakers ultimately got the message - communities of color deserve the trust and investment needed to provide support to victims and survivors, to address both manifestations and root causes of racial injustice, and to recognize that keeping our communities strong and united makes us all safer.

Deep gratitude to the API Legislative Caucus, the State Legislature, Governor Newsom and the 150+ statewide organizations for their historic actions to pass the [API Equity Budget!](#)



Manju Kulkarni
Executive Director



Rachelle Arizmendi
Chair, Board of Directors

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The Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON) is a coalition of community-based organizations that advocates for the rights and needs of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community in the greater Los Angeles area with particular focus on low income, immigrant, refugee and other disadvantaged sectors of the population. We set up this mailing list to keep you updated on API related issues. This includes community announcements, key news items, resources, and training. We will send you no more than 5 messages a month.

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Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council
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