

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS: after the Fall of Saigon in 1975, thousands of Vietnamese refugees were forced to flee their country in fear of the government of Vietnam's campaign of retribution and political and religious persecution; and
- WHEREAS: many of these Vietnamese refugees are now Vietnamese-Americans who have chosen to make the City of Vancouver, USA their home; and
- WHEREAS: Vancouver's Vietnamese-American community has made substantial contributions to the cultural, religious, political and business life of Vancouver; and
- WHEREAS: the vast majority of Vancouver's Vietnamese-Americans embrace the yellow flag with three red stripes, also known as the Heritage and Freedom Flag, as the symbol of the Vietnamese-American community; and
- WHEREAS: this flag is widely embraced because of its long history as a symbol of resilience, freedom and democracy both in Vietnam itself and Vietnamese-American communities throughout Vancouver and elsewhere; and
- WHEREAS: it is the will and expressed desire of Vietnamese-Americans that this flag be recognized as the official symbol of the Vietnamese-American community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Royce E. Pollard, Mayor of America's Vancouver, do formally recognize the yellow flag with three red stripes, known as the Heritage and Freedom Flag, as the official symbol of the Vancouver Vietnamese-American Community.

BE IT RESOLVED that this flag may be displayed on City property at any City-controlled or sponsored Vietnamese-American events, or any public function organized by the Vietnamese-American community when appropriate, subject to the permit requirements of the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Vancouver encourages county officials to pass legislation recognizing the yellow flag with three red stripes as the official symbol of the Vietnamese-American community, and encourages local school districts to adopt similar resolutions or proclamations recognizing the yellow flag with three red stripes as the official flag to be displayed in schools during Vietnamese-American events.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 7th day of June, 2004.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.E. Pollard", written in a cursive style.

ROYCE E. POLLARD, MAYOR