



Township of

FERGUSON

Pennsylvania

# Proclamation

## A PROCLAMATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON, CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA TO OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR

*Whereas*, the Lunar New Year is an important holiday for many Asian communities around the world that is celebrated in unique ways by many Asians, and Americans of Asian origin, including Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese origins, but all focus on celebrating and strengthening family and community bonds; and

*Whereas*, the traditional Lunar New Year celebrations begin on Lunar New Year's Eve and end on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the first lunar month, also known as the Lantern Festival; and

*Whereas*, the Lunar New Year is based on the Lunar calendar which includes the Chinese zodiac; or Sheng Xiao (生肖), a repeating 12-year cycle of animal signs and their ascribed attributes. Though the animal signs can vary across cultures, the Lunar New Year marks the transition from one animal to the next; with January 31, 2022 ending the Year of the Ox, and February 1, 2022 starting the Year of the Tiger; and

*Whereas*, Ferguson Township greatly benefits from the creativity, enterprise, skills, and diverse heritage of our Asian Pacific Desi American (APIDA) residents that live, work, play throughout Centre County's large and small communities, contributing to our economy and enriching the ethnic and social fabric of our community with multiple languages, cultures, and religious beliefs; and

*Whereas*, Ferguson Township embraces the celebration of diverse families, histories, identifies, and pride builds understanding, deepens empathy, and strengthens the fibers of our communities.

*Now, therefore*, the Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim February 1, 2022, as Lunar New Year in Ferguson Township and wish everyone celebrating the holiday a Happy Lunar New Year. We encourage everyone in Ferguson Township to join in the spirit of celebration and reaffirm our community's commitment to family, diversity, mutual respect, and creating an inclusive environment of belonging for all our residents.

Proclaimed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022.

Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors,

Laura Dininni, Chair