

For over four decades, as a State Assemblymember and City Council member, I have been engaged and supported the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. I have developed personal relationships with so many community members and leaders and have had the honor and privilege to represent the Korean American community for my entire elected career.

I have helped AAPI small business owners develop into thriving entrepreneurs as well as helped the overall AAPI business community succeed. I know firsthand that these AAPI small businesses are the livelihood for so many families. This is why when COVID-19 pandemic hit, I introduced and passed a motion that gave business owners the right to require face masks on the premises of their businesses.

I was also one of the first councilmembers to allot a portion of my discretionary funds to support Koreatown and in particular small businesses. My office partnered with many Koreatown community organizations such as the Koreatown Youth Community Center (KYCC), Korean American Federation of Los Angeles (KAFLA), and the KHEIR Clinic with various COVID-19 related programs such as free testing, hot meal distribution to seniors, and translation support for businesses and families to help fill out PPP and other pandemic related programs. In addition, I got unanimous support on a resolution for Rep. Grace Meng's H. Resolution 908, which condemned all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID-19. I was deeply disturbed by the anti-Asian rhetoric and behavior and wanted to reaffirm my support for the AAPI community.

I have worked closely with AAPI nonprofits in other work besides COVID-19 related programming to promote representation and equity for the community. I am proud of my long standing partnerships with nonprofits and have worked on a diverse set of initiatives including youth empowerment, tree trimming, community health, and Census outreach.

My relationship with the AAPI community also extends to the AAPI Faith Community. My office and I have worked to ensure representation and provide services and funding to religious institutions like the Berendo Baptist Church to expand social and youth services in AAPI communities.

I am proud that I have always supported AAPI staffers for over four decades during my entire time as a legislative staffer and an elected official. In particular, my Chief of Staff, Charmette Bonpua, who tragically passed away in 2010, was a Filipino American woman, who was instrumental in guiding policy issues and leading my team. She left a lasting legacy in my office and I will be forever grateful for the relationships she helped build with the Filipino American community. I have also been proud to support the building of the pipeline for AAPI staffers. Some of these staffers have gone on to leadership roles and become elected officials in their own right such as Mark Pulido, former Mayor and Councilmember of Cerritos.

Here are some examples of my work in the State Assembly and as President of the Los Angeles City Council:

✓ As Speaker of the State Assembly, I created the nation's first API Legislative Caucus and API State Commission

✓ I created a program called embRACE LA that brings people together from all over the City for conversations about race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and other subject matters that folks have difficulty discussing. When I was a kid, we'd have these conversations around the dinner table, at church, at work, and in the community. We need to engage in these conversations to understand each other better and work together toward a more perfect union and society.

✓ I co-authored, with Councilmember Cedillo, the motion that called for the first-ever Civil and Human Rights ordinance in the LA history. This ordinance, adopted earlier this year, prohibits the denial of equal treatment to individuals based on their race, color, ethnicity, creed, age, national origin, citizenship status or perceived status, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, or perceived orientation, disability, marital status, partnership status, employment status or source of income.

✓ I authored legislation to conduct a comprehensive study to ensure that LA City municipal laws do not discriminate or have implicit bias, thereby ensuring that the City has a long-term approach to pay equity for our employees and contractors.

✓ I co-sponsored legislation on the Equal Pay LA initiative and a resolution to support S. 2062 (Manchin) with Councilmembers Martinez and Rodriguez. I also sponsored legislation to create a new ordinance requiring equal compensation and prize money for any competition featuring male and female divisions in the City of Los Angeles, requiring a permit from the City.

✓ I co-authored a motion with Councilmembers Harris-Dawson and O'Farrell to create an Office of Racial Equity in the City of Los Angeles, an outcome of our embRACE LA program.

I am committed to bringing these ideas and policies to the County of Los Angeles to ensure our residents are treated equitably, and the AAPI community garners respect and dignity throughout

our nation. And I am dedicated to completing the Korean American National Museum for which I provided the land and \$3.5 million in funding.

As an elected official representing Koreatown, I have also worked with the community to fund, design, and build dozens of projects to benefit the AAPI community and residents throughout the region.

Here are some examples:

- ✓ Seoul International Park upgrades, including the Dodger Field
- ✓ Lafayette Park upgrades
- ✓ Pio Pico Library Park (2020-21)
- ✓ Olympic Gateway (2020-21)
- ✓ Madang Linear Park (2020-21)
- ✓ Koreatown Senior & Community Center (2011)
- ✓ Olympic Boulevard Streetscape Project (2011)
- ✓ Madang Open Space/Koreatown Pavilion Garden (2013)
- ✓ Korean American National Museum (TBD)
- ✓ Designated Koreatown as an official community in the City of Los Angeles (2010)
- ✓ Provided official support to Koreatown Youth & Community Center's (KYCC) application which successfully designated Koreatown as a Preserve America neighborhood (2008)
- ✓ Built over 1,000 affordable housing units in Koreatown, including collaborating on projects with the Korean Resource Center, the Korean Immigrant Workers Alliance, and the Koreatown Youth & Community Center
- ✓ Solair and Wilshire-Vermont Station, Wilshire-Vermont, and Southwestern Law School expansion.
- ✓ Square Dedications for Dr. Sammy Lee, Dr. Gene Kim, Royal Suk-kyu-Yang, Scarlett Eum, and Michelle Kwan
- ✓ Opened a BusinessSource Center in Koreatown
- ✓ DASH Route in Wilshire Center/Koreatown
- ✓ Wilshire Blvd and adjacent areas wireless camera security system
- ✓ Providing jobs to youth through KYCC, including tree trimming and street maintenance.

Throughout my tenure on the Los Angeles City Council, I have successfully ensured that nearly every piece of legislation I authored on behalf of the AAPI community was approved and implemented, often unanimously. I have a history and record of getting things done. My deep concern for present and future generations in the AAPI community has always been an essential part of my career, ensuring that we work together across generations to deliver a better Los Angeles to our children and grandchildren. My commitment to you is that when you pick up the phone and dial my number, I will be the one who takes up the mantle and answers your call.

I believe in equity and equality for all human beings and I strive to address any shortcomings for any community in the public sector in my capacity as an Elected official. I have a saying that in Los Angeles, "we don't care who you love, as long as you love. We don't care who our neighbor is, as long as they're a good neighbor." I have been fighting for civil and human rights for nearly four decades. If I am blessed to be elected the next County Supervisor, I look forward to continuing the work with the AAPI community and continuing to build in my relationships.