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NYC Mayoral Candidate Art Chang Releases Statement on Anti-AAPI Hate; Calls for All Other Candidates to Endorse Womankind's AAPI Neighborhood Recovery Plan

[BROOKLYN, NY, 2/10/2021] — NYC Mayoral Candidate Art Chang calls for immediate action to stop the surge of violence and hate against the Asian American & Pacific Islander community in New York City, as well as urgently-needed resources to support the AAPI neighborhoods who have been left behind throughout the COVID-19 pandemic & economic shutdown.

Chang said on social media today, “While we have spent the last year fighting the COVID-19 epidemic, we’ve been ignoring another epidemic: Anti-Asian hate. I am so anguished by the lives lost in Atlanta last night. And I can’t help but notice that so much of this violence is directed at AAPI women and the elderly, and the perpetrators are men.

“These crimes are not isolated incidents: they’re the result of years of neglect for our community. AAPI are 15% of NYC’s population but [receive less than 1.5%](#) of human services contract funding. Before COVID, AAPI experienced [the highest poverty rate](#) (25.8%) and the lowest weekly wages. As a result of COVID, AAPI had a 6.9x increase in unemployment claims, the highest of any community. Yet significant parts of [Chinatown were omitted](#) from emergency relief. All the while, anti-AAPI violence increased 19x in NYC.”

Candidate Chang will be hosting a Clubhouse room at 8:00pm EST tonight, Wednesday, March 17th, to provide space to share thoughts and discuss how we move forward. All are welcome to attend and speak at the event. The Clubhouse room can be found here: <https://www.joinclubhouse.com/event/xBI2EN14>

Chang is endorsing Womankind’s AAPI Neighborhood Recovery Plan and calling on the other Mayoral candidates to do so as well. The plan asks the NYC Mayor’s office to target funding to address anti-Asian discrimination and harassment, include AAPI neighborhood leaders in recovery task forces, and give direct support to AAPI neighborhoods and businesses. The full plan can be read here:

<https://www.iamwomankind.org/2020/05/12/aapi-neighborhood-recovery-plan/>

For more information, please visit <https://www.chang.nyc/stopAAPIhate>.

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