



Sunnyvale

# Signature Event Proposal: The Immigrant Experience through Storytelling Circles

Human Relations Commission

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Equity, Access, and Inclusion Manager

April 11, 2024



# Agenda

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1. HRC Responsibilities
2. Focus Areas
3. Why Focus on the Immigrant Experience?
4. Proposal: The Immigrant Experience Through Storytelling Circles
5. Timeline and Action Plan
6. Resources
7. Questions & Discussion

# Responsibilities of the HRC under Policy 7.2.19 on Boards and Commissions:

DRAFT PRESENTATION

1. The Commission should focus on policy issues and not interfere with City operations. Likewise, the Commission is not to be a forum for grievances from members of the public. Complaints should continue to be directed to the City Manager and Council.
2. Study, evaluate and advise the City Council on policies and programs related to diversity, equity, access, inclusion, justice and belonging.
3. Celebrate and encourage intergroup understanding of Sunnyvale's rich cultural diversity.
4. Promote regular, civil, and authentic engagement with diverse groups of residents.
5. Advise on increasing accessibility and transparency of local government policies, programs, and services.

# Focus Areas

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Immigrant Experience

Multiheritage Experience

Othering and Bullying

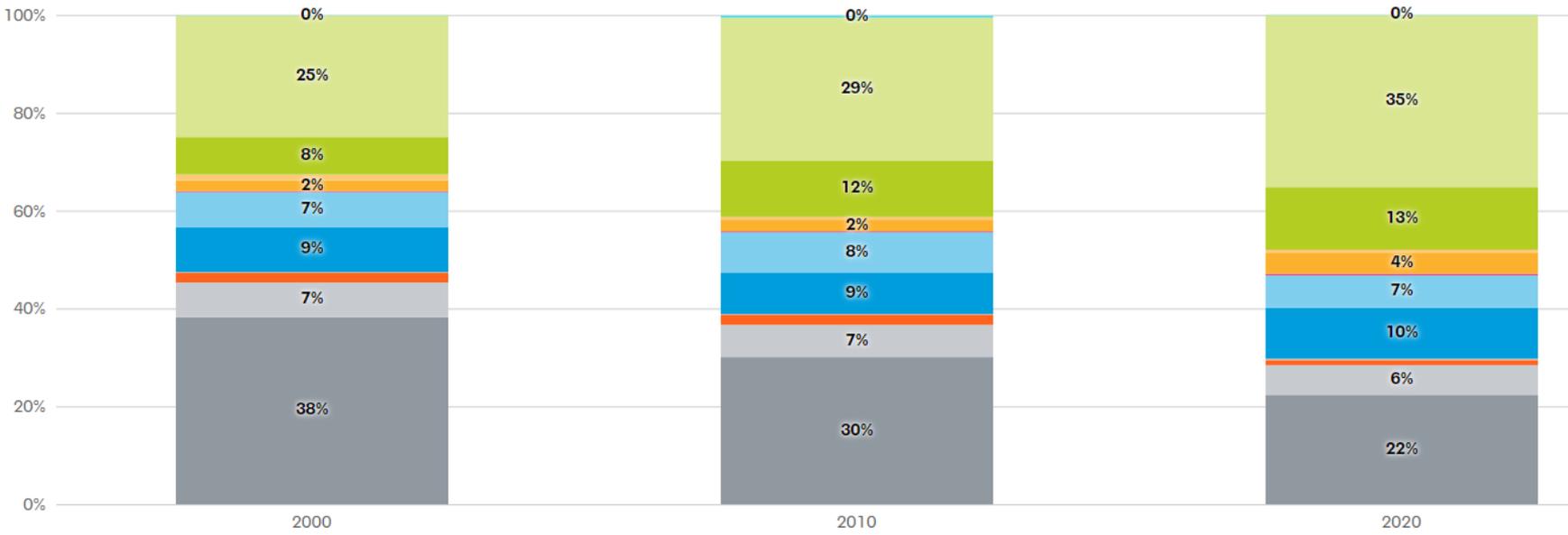
# Why Focus on the Immigrant Experience?

## Nativity and ancestry Sunnyvale City, CA

Race/ethnicity by nativity: Sunnyvale City, CA; 2000-2020

- White, US-born
- White, immigrant
- Black, US-born
- Black, immigrant
- Latino, US-born
- Latino, immigrant
- Native American
- Mixed/other, US-born
- Mixed/other, immigrant
- Asian American, US-born
- Asian American, immigrant
- Pacific Islander, US-born
- Pacific Islander, immigrant

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# Why Focus on the Immigrant Experience?

## Insights & Analyses

- U.S.-born Latinx, Asian American, and Mixed/other populations are the fastest growing groups in the nine-county Bay Area.
- Among the Asian American population in the five-county Bay Area, East Asians represent the largest share, followed by Chinese Asians and Southeast Asians.
- In the nine-county Bay Area, the majority of residents who identify as East, Southeast, or South Asian are immigrants, as are the majority of Central and South Americans.
- Samoans comprise the largest share of Pacific Islander residents in San Francisco County with close to a thousand people.

## Drivers of Demographic Change

With its ties to the Pacific Rim and Mexico, the Bay Area has long been a destination for immigrants, and boasts one of the most diverse populations in the country, if not the world. Within broad racial groups, Bay Area residents have roots in an immensely diverse mix of countries. Latinx and Asian or Pacific Islander residents are becoming a larger share of the region due to population growth among both U.S.-born residents and immigrants.

# Why Focus on the Immigrant Experience?

## Strategies

### Invest in people: Strategies to strengthen immigrant inclusion

- Support the integration of immigrants by providing access to **health care** and **municipal ID cards** regardless of immigration status.
- Increase **language access** to ensure access to needed services for immigrants who do not speak English.
- Facilitate **naturalization** to increase citizenship, which boosts earnings and enables political inclusion.
- Protect immigrant residents and workers by **limiting the participation of local law enforcement with Immigration and Customs Enforcement** and providing **legal assistance** to immigrants facing deportation.
- Ensure representation and foster political inclusion by allowing non-citizens to **vote in school board elections**.

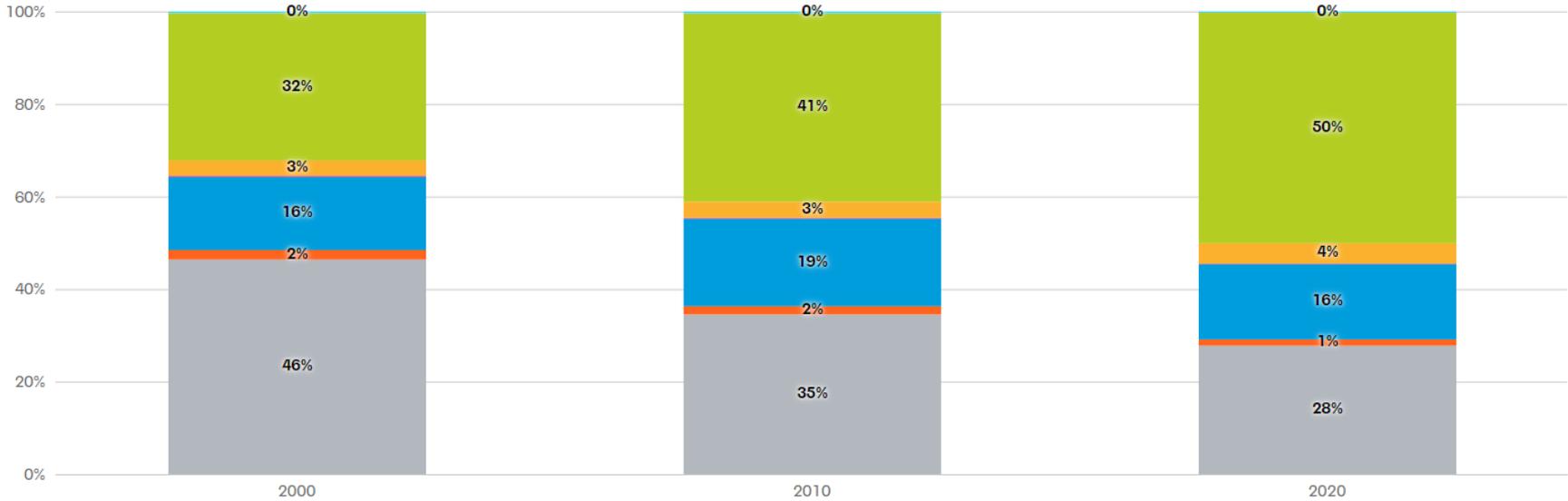
# Why Focus on the Immigrant Experience?

## Race/ethnicity Sunnyvale City, CA

Race/ethnic composition: Sunnyvale City, CA; 2000-2060

White Black Latino Native American Mixed/other Asian American Pacific Islander

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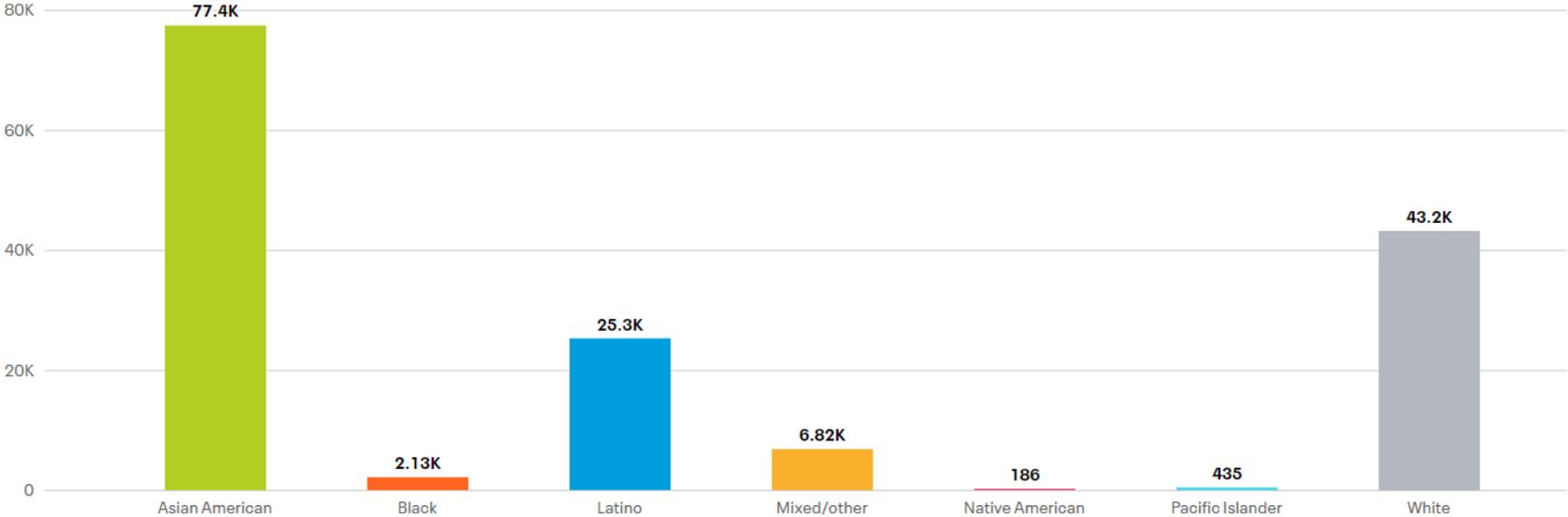


# Why Focus on the Immigrant Experience?

## Race/ethnicity Sunnyvale City, CA

Population by race/ethnicity: Sunnyvale City, CA; Year: 2020

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# Why Focus on the Immigrant Experience?

## Strategies

### Invest in people: Strategies to strengthen racial diversity and inclusion

- Embed a **racial equity approach** throughout government, including using a **racial equity impact assessment tool** on proposed policies
- Encourage businesses to commit to becoming anti-racist institutions that take action to **advance racial equity** internally and externally
- Build **multiracial alliances and coalitions** to advance policy change
- Develop strategies to dismantle barriers and ensure access to opportunity for specific vulnerable populations, such as **boys and men of color**
- Implement **anti-displacement** and **community wealth-building** strategies to reverse the trend of Black displacement
- Include immigrants by ensuring **access to health care, driver's licenses, and municipal ID cards** regardless of immigration status; increasing **language access**; **facilitating naturalization**; **limiting the participation of local law enforcement with Immigration and Customs Enforcement**; providing **legal assistance**; and allowing non-citizens to **vote in school board elections**
- Strengthen democracy by increasing **civic participation and voting** among underrepresented groups and building **leadership development pipelines**

# The Immigrant Experience through Storytelling Circles

- Catalysts & Facilitators

- Commissioners
- EAI Manager
- Shiv Durga Temple
- Chung Tai Zen Center
- SEED Team
- Economic Development & Chamber of Commerce



Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale  
中台山·太谷精舍



# Immigrant Experience

- Immigrant Heritage Month Partners
  - Santa Clara County Office of Immigrant Affairs: Immigrant Belonging Project
  - Welcoming America
  - I Stand With Immigrants
  - AACI
  - Neighborhood Association
  - Sunnyvale Chamber of Commerce

WELCOMING  
AMERICA



I  
STAND  
WITH  
IMMIGRANTS

I  
AM  
AN  
IMMIGRANT



COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA  
DIVISION OF EQUITY  
AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Sunnyvale Neighborhoods

# Timeline



# Resources

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- Bay Area Equity Atlas: <https://bayareaequityatlas.org>
- I Am An Immigrant: <https://www.iamanimmigrant.com/about-us/>
- Telling Authentic Immigrant Stories:  
<https://defineamerican.com/research/telling-authentic-immigrant-stories/>
- Welcoming America: <https://welcomingamerica.org>



# Questions & Discussion



Sunnyvale

Thank you