

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
CITY OF LOWELL

In City Council

RESOLUTION

The City Council of the City of Lowell wishes to go on record to declare August 4, 2024, in the City of Lowell as "BAPS" Day.

WHEREAS, BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha ("BAPS") is a worldwide Hindu denomination dedicated to fostering faith, inspiring service, and promoting better living; and

WHEREAS, His Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj (1921-2016), established the first BAPS Hindu mandir in the United States of America on August 4, 1974 in New York City; and

WHEREAS, 2024 marks fifty years of service and faith in the United States for BAPS; and

WHEREAS, over the last fifty years, BAPS has grown to over 100 mandirs across the United States; and

WHEREAS, these mandirs offer a welcoming and spiritual space for thousands of families, as well as worship, fellowship, communal meals, education, and activities for young and old, creating a true home for the faithful; and

WHEREAS, BAPS mandirs offer youth activities that encourage and mold young people to live lives of integrity and character that reflect our highest ideals; and

WHEREAS, BAPS mandirs bring His Holiness Pramukh Swami Maha raj's words-"In the joy of others lies our own" -to life through support for those in need, through a variety of community efforts such as health fairs, food drives, or disaster relief work; and

WHEREAS, following in the example of His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj, the volunteers of BAPS have, time and again, answered the call to serve, humbly, selflessly, and inspirationally; and

WHEREAS, BAPS mandirs have a storied history of helping immigrants to the United States retain their connection to their faith but fully embrace and join in American civic life; and

WHEREAS, BAPS mandirs add to the rich tapestry of diversity that makes America and the City of Lowell, Massachusetts a beautiful place to call home; and

WHEREAS, the BAPS mandir in City of Lowell in Massachusetts is a proud example of how houses of worship contribute to the well-being of their congregants and local communities; and

WHEREAS, the BAPS mandir in City of Lowell in Massachusetts hopes to serve its congregants and the local community with even greater zeal in the next fifty years and beyond;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL as follows:

That we, the members of the City Council of the City of Lowell be recorded to congratulate BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha and to declare August 4, 2024, in the City of Lowell as "BAPS" Day.

Submitted by:

CITY COUNCIL - CITY OF LOWELL

Mayor Daniel P. Rourke

Rita M. Mercier

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