The League of Women Voters of the City of New York stands in solidarity with the Asian-American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities.

On Tuesday, March 16th a white man murdered eight people in Atlanta - six of whom were women of Asian descent. This is both uniquely terrible and part of a long history of anti-Asian hatred in this country. New York City has the largest AAPI population in the United States.

As New Yorkers, we must stand firmly against anti-Asian hatred. Too often in our very own city, anti-Asian hate crimes occur, and these crimes have skyrocketed throughout the pandemic. And, unfortunately, throughout New York City’s history, these hate crimes have not been taken seriously.

We urge our members and volunteers to take action. Here are a couple of ways to help.

Action 1
This article has suggestions on how to help AAPI communities in New York City.

Action 2
We also urge you to call your City Council members to lobby for passage of Int. 1867-2020, a bill that would provide a process for lawful permanent residents to vote in municipal elections. Having more immigrants involved in the electoral process is one way we can help strengthen legislation against hate crimes and provide better mechanisms to report such crimes and enhanced transparency on their occurrence.

Call script:
Hello, my name is [YOUR NAME], and I am with the League of Women Voters of the City of New York. I am calling to urge [CITY COUNCIL MEMBER’S NAME] to commit to pass Int. 1867-2020, the bill to provide a process for lawful permanent residents to vote in municipal elections. Given the recent tide of anti-immigrant sentiment, it is more important than ever to give non-citizen residents a voice in our elections. Will [CITY COUNCIL MEMBER’S NAME] commit to vote in favor of Int. 1867-2020? Thanks for your time.

Email script:
Hello, my name is [YOUR NAME], and I am with the League of Women Voters of the City of New York. I am writing to urge [CITY COUNCIL MEMBER’S NAME] to commit to pass Int. 1867-2020, the bill to provide a process for lawful permanent residents to vote in municipal elections. Given the recent tide of anti-immigrant sentiment, it is more important than ever to give non-citizen residents a voice in our elections. Will [CITY COUNCIL MEMBER’S NAME] commit to vote in favor of Int. 1867-2020? Thanks for your time.