

PROCLAMATION

Juneteenth

WHEREAS, the City of Redlands recognizes JUNETEENTH as a citywide celebration on Monday, June 19, 2023, in recognition of the day news reached the Black community in Texas of their emancipation from slavery on June 19, 1865, also known as Juneteenth Independence Day or Emancipation Day; and

WHEREAS, at 2 p.m. on New Year's Day, January 1, 1863, using his war powers as President, Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, providing that all persons held as enslaved within any State in rebellion against the United States "*shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free;*" and

WHEREAS, the Emancipation Proclamation made the permanent abolition of slavery a Union war aim and provided the legal framework for the emancipation of nearly all four million enslaved people, ultimately serving as the catalyst for the announcement of General Order No. 3 by United States Army general Gordon Granger, proclaiming freedom from slavery in Texas; and

WHEREAS, Congress ultimately passed the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which abolished slavery throughout the United States and its territories; and

WHEREAS, Nearly all 50 states recognize Juneteenth in some form through celebrations, speeches, educational events, festivals and family gatherings, and it is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the end of slavery in the United States, having been celebrated by the Black community for over 150 years; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, joins the University of Redlands Black Student Faculty Staff Administrator and Alumni (BSFSAA), Black Student Union (BSU) and Campus Diversity & Inclusion (CDI), Unity in the Community, and the Human Relations Commission in gratefully acknowledging the contributions made by Black community members to the enrichment of the City of Redlands.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the City Council of the City of Redlands does hereby recognize June 19, 2023, as Juneteenth and encourages all residents to reflect on and honor the significant contributions that Black Americans have made to our nation, and in addition encourages its residents to share their unique story by visiting: <https://www.akspl.org/news-events/redlands-community-history-initiative/>.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we hereunto affix our signatures and Official Seal of the City of Redlands on this 20th day of June, 2023




Eddie Tejada, Mayor


Denise Davis, Councilmember

Attest:

Jeanne Donaldson, City Clerk