

Proclamation

City of Lynnwood

Recognition of Juneteenth

WHEREAS, in 1619, twenty captured Africans were brought to Virginia as enslaved people, ushering in 246 years of slavery in America; and

WHEREAS, by 1680 as the number of indentured laborers of European descent declined, the enslavement of Africans was widely accepted, and the buying and selling of these human souls became highly profitable in the southern United States; and

WHEREAS, the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 freed enslaved people in the 11 Confederate states at war against the Union; however, it wasn't until December of 1865 when Congress required the Confederate states to ratify the 13th Amendment, thereby abolishing chattel slavery and involuntary servitude; and

WHEREAS, slavery remained relatively unaffected in Texas until June 19th, 1865 when Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas to take control of the state and freed all enslaved people; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a commemoration of June 19th, 1865, and is now celebrated in many communities in the United States with cookouts, parades, prayer services, and poetry readings; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a time to reflect on the injustice endured by the men, women, and children of African descent brought to this nation against their will, but whose legacy of determination to live free paved the way for our continued fight for justice; and

WHEREAS, on June 19th the City of Lynnwood will honor the legacy of Black and African American ancestors by continuing our commitment to cultivate a community where all have a sense of belonging and feel included, valued and welcome; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Mayor Christine Frizzell, and the Lynnwood City Council, hereby proclaim Sunday, June 19, 2022 as Juneteenth in the City of Lynnwood, and we encourage everyone to celebrate Juneteenth by strengthening our resolve to dismantle systemic racism, denounce hatred and bigotry and renew our pledge to eradicate racial inequity and social injustice in our communities and throughout the world. And acknowledging and recognizing the contributions of enslaved Africans including culture, economic growth, and development.

Christine Frizzell, Mayor

June 13, 2022

George Hurst, City Council President

Christine Frizzell

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