

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF – OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

The City of Flagstaff celebrates the rich cultural traditions and proud ancestry of the peoples of the African Diaspora and recognizes their vital contributions made to strengthen and diversify the City of Flagstaff and our surrounding communities; **and**

National Black History Month serves as a powerful reminder that Black history is American history, and the stories from our Black ancestors are essential to the ongoing story of American culture. As the Flagstaff City Council embraces and celebrates National Black History month, let us not take lightly the faults, the battles, the progress, the hope, the aspirations, and the future; **and**

Black cultures are igniting challenging conversations and stimulating learning through the global lens of the African Diaspora which shape, develop, and create a vibrant city. A city where the first sawmill and railroad workers, innovators, civil rights activists, educators, council members, commissioners, a mayor, and public servants include peoples of the African Diaspora; **and**

The Flagstaff City Council observes the 2025 Black History Month theme “African Americans and Labor,” which , focuses on the various and profound ways that work and working of all kinds – free and unfree, skilled, and unskilled, vocational and voluntary – intersect with the collective experiences of Black people. Be it the traditional agricultural labor of enslaved Africans that fed Low Country colonies, debates among Black educators on the importance of vocational training, self-help strategies and entrepreneurship in Black communities, or organized labor’s role in fighting both economic and social injustice, Black people’s work has been transformational throughout the U.S., Africa, and the Diaspora; **and**

The Council continues its commitment to understanding the black lived experience through the adoption of the Lived Black Experience Strategic Plan in December 2020 that provides direction and guidance to address conditions of the African Diaspora peoples in the Flagstaff community; **and**

The Commission on Diversity Awareness, in partnership with Coconino County African Diaspora Advisory Council and the Southside Community Association recommends the designation of February 2023 as Black History Month, in unison to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I,, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2025 as:

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

DATED this XXX day of February 2025

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK