

**CITY OF TIGARD, OREGON
TIGARD CITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NO. 22-**

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH AS AN ANNUAL LEGAL HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF TIGARD

WHEREAS, men, women, and children were brought to the United States from the African continent as enslaved people beginning in 1526, if not before, and spent the next 350 years constructing this country's infrastructure and economy; and

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring all enslaved people in Confederate territory free, leading to the passage of the 13th Amendment, which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865 to announce that "in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free," two and a half years after it was first decreed; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of the end of slavery, Juneteenth is one of the oldest celebrations in America, beginning in 1866, and growing out of the experiences of Black Americans and their enslaved ancestors; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth provides an opportunity for the City of Tigard to celebrate Black American heritage and achievements, and to honor the contributions of Black Americans to the country, culture, life, and liberties enjoyed today; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth also acknowledges America's commitment to freedom and opportunity, and our continued pursuit for equity and justice in line with the U.S. Constitution which states that all people are created equal; and

WHEREAS, Black Americans continue to suffer from systemic racism more than 150 years after the end of slavery, which has impacted the physical, social, and economic health and well-being of this community, challenging their ability to enjoy the same freedoms as other Americans, build intergenerational wealth, live long, healthy lives, and fulfill their potential; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, both the federal government and the Oregon Legislature recognized Juneteenth as an official holiday; and

WHEREAS, the City strives to create a community where Black people feel safe and respected and interpersonal, institutional and structural racism no longer exists. Our commitment is present in the City's Anti-Racism Action Plan and strategic vision to be, "an equitable community that is walkable, healthy, and accessible for everyone;" and

WHEREAS, the City of Tigard recognizes and celebrates, with enthusiasm, Juneteenth Day on June 19.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tigard City Council that:

SECTION 1: The City of Tigard declares June 19, Juneteenth, as an annual celebration of the past, present, and future of Black and African-American liberation.

SECTION 2: The City urges all community members to learn the significance of this celebration in Black and African-American History and in the heritage of our nation and City.

SECTION 3: The City recognizes Juneteenth, June 19, as an annual legal holiday within the City beginning June 19, 2022 and directs and authorizes the City Manager to take all actions necessary to implement this policy, including but not limited to amending the City's personnel policies.

SECTION 4: This resolution is effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED: This _____ day of _____ 2022.

Mayor - City of Tigard

ATTEST:

City Recorder - City of Tigard