

City of Kenmore, Washington



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, setting in motion the end of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Civil War ended with the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865; and

WHEREAS, this news reached Texas when Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston Bay with Union troops. It was on June 19, 1865, that he announced: "The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free"; and

WHEREAS, a celebration of the end of slavery, which became known as Juneteenth, is the oldest known public celebration of the end of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and celebrates the successes gained through education and greater opportunity; and

WHEREAS, on a larger scale, the celebration of Juneteenth reminds each of us of the precious promises of freedom, equality, and opportunity, which are at the core of the American Dream; and

WHEREAS, Governor Jay Inslee signed House Bill 1016, officially declaring Juneteenth a state holiday and granting a paid day off for state workers starting in 2022; and

WHEREAS, The United States Congress is also discussing recognizing Juneteenth as a federal holiday,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, David Baker, Mayor of the City of Kenmore, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim **June 19** as a day to celebrate **JUNETEENTH 2021** throughout the City of Kenmore. We urge all residents to join with the City Council in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, signed this 24th day of May 2021.



Signed: _____

Mayor David Baker

Attested: _____

City Clerk Anastasiya Warhol