

Proclamation

- Whereas,** Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery;
- Whereas,** President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring all slaves in the Confederate territory free; and
- Whereas,** Juneteenth is celebrated on June 19th, the date when, in 1865, Union soldiers announced in Galveston, Texas that in accordance with the Emancipation Proclamation, "all slaves are free"; and
- Whereas,** Juneteenth commemorates the latest known date of the news of the abolition of slavery being shared throughout the United States; and
- Whereas,** today, Juneteenth celebrates Black and African-American freedom and achievement, and reminds Americans of the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of slavery; and
- Whereas,** Juneteenth is recognized as a state holiday or special day of observance in at least 47 states and the District of Columbia, and since 2002, the Governor of California has proclaimed the third Saturday in June of each year to be known as "Juneteenth National Freedom Day: A day of observance, to urge all Californians in celebrating this day to honor and reflect on the significant roles that African-Americans have played in the history of the United States and how African-Americans have enriched society through their steadfast commitment to promoting freedom, brotherhood, and equality."

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that I, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Mayor of the City of Alameda, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2020 as

Juneteenth Day

in the City of Alameda and encourage residents to join me in recognizing and celebrating this day, our country's oldest commemoration of Black and African-American freedom and achievement.



Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft
Mayor

