

TOWN OF LYONS, COLORADO

**A PROCLAMATION BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF LYONS,
RECOGNIZING THE JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY**

June 19, 2022

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation was issued on January 1, 1863. Yet, news of the end of slavery did not reach the frontier areas of the United States, and in particular the Southwestern States, for over two and a half years; and

WHEREAS On June 19, 1865, Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved were free; and

WHEREAS, African Americans who had been enslaved in the Southwest began celebrating June 19, commonly known as "Juneteenth Independence Day," in 1866 as inspiration and encouragement for future generations; and

WHEREAS, On June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed a bill to make Juneteenth a Federal Holiday; and

WHEREAS, On May 2, 2022, Colorado Governor Jared Polis signed a bill to make Juneteenth Colorado's eleventh State Holiday; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees (Board) of the Town of Lyons acknowledges the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day to the United States; and

WHEREAS, Residents of the Town of Lyons are encouraged to join the continued nationwide celebration of Juneteenth Independence Day to provide an opportunity for the people of the United States to learn more about the past and to better understand the experiences of enslaved people that have shaped this country; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lyons will fly the Juneteenth Flag to raise awareness of the celebration

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Trustees of the Town of Lyons hereby proclaims:

That June 19, 2022, is recognized as Juneteenth Independence Day and is a Town Holiday.
The Town of Lyons encourages all residents to join in celebration and solidarity and actively

raise their own awareness of the significance of this celebration in African American History and in the heritage of our nation and town.

**Given under my hand and seal of the Town of Lyons
this 6th day of June 2022.**

Hollie Rogin, Mayor