

TOWN OF LYONS, COLORADO

A PROCLAMATION BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF LYONS, COLORADO COMMEMORATING JUNETEENTH

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, commemorates the end of slavery in the United States, and celebrates the spirit of resilience and determination of Black Americans who have overcome centuries of oppression and discrimination to shape our nation's history and culture;

WHEREAS, on June 19th, 1865, Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas to announce the end of the Civil War and the abolition of slavery, marking a pivotal moment in the fight for freedom and equality for African Americans;

WHEREAS, Juneteenth has been recognized as a state holiday in Colorado since 2022, and its observance offers an opportunity to reflect on the ongoing struggle for racial justice and to celebrate the contributions and achievements of the Black community;

WHEREAS, the Juneteenth holiday in Colorado is a time to honor the legacy of Black Americans, recognize their significant contributions to our state's history and culture, and acknowledge the ongoing challenges and barriers they face, and in 2023, Boulder County honors the contributions specifically of Black Boulder County residents;

WHEREAS, Colorado's Black community has a rich and diverse history, from the pioneers who settled in the state during the 19th century, to the activists who fought for civil rights during the 20th century, to the artists, athletes, and entrepreneurs who continue to make their mark today;

WHEREAS, we must continue to work towards creating a more equitable and just society for all Coloradans, and recognizing the contributions and struggles of the Black community is an essential step towards achieving that goal;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the TOWN OF LYONS: That we recognize the historical significance of Juneteenth; support the continued celebration of Juneteenth to provide an opportunity for the people of the TOWN OF LYONS to learn more about the past to better understand the experiences that have shaped the nation and encourage the people of the TOWN OF LYONS to observe Juneteenth Day with appropriate ceremonies, activities and programs; and

Be it further resolved: the history and the plight of African Americans and all that was endured during chattel slavery, reconstruction, Jim Crow, and the Civil Rights Movement is an example of pure resilience.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the TOWN OF LYONS recognizes, adopts and proclaims this Resolution to underscore the freedom with dignity of every human being. As a governmental body, we oppose and reject any form of oppression and pledge to support our residents and local entities working to achieve equality and protect human rights.

**Given under my hand and seal of the Town of Lyons
This 5th day of June 2023**

Hollie Rogin, Mayor