



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation declaring the slaves in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, even though the Emancipation Proclamation was made effective in 1863, it could not be implemented in places still under Confederate control; and

**WHEREAS**, in Texas, enslaved people would not be free until June 19, 1865, when Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay announcing that more than 250,000 enslaved people were free by executive decree, and this day came to be known as "Juneteenth" by the newly freed people in Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth, also known as "Juneteenth Independence Day," "Emancipation Day," "Emancipation Celebration," and "Freedom Day," is the oldest African American holiday observance in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth is a day of reflection, a day of renewal, a pride-filled day during which we develop a greater understanding and appreciation of the African American experience; and

**WHEREAS**, the historical legacy of Juneteenth show the value of never giving up hope in uncertain times; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth is a day to recognize and appreciate the achievements of African Americans across the City, the state, and the nation.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, the City Council of the City of Tulare, do hereby proclaim the day of June 17, 2023, as

## Juneteenth

in the City of Tulare and encourage all citizens to become more aware of the significance of the celebration of African American history and in the heritage of our nation and City.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023.



*Terry A. Sayre*  
Terry A. Sayre, Mayor

*Patrick Isherwood*  
Patrick Isherwood, Vice Mayor

*Jose Sigala*  
Jose Sigala, Councilmember

*Stephen C. Harrell*  
Stephen C. Harrell, Councilmember

*Dennis A. Mederos*  
Dennis A. Mederos, Councilmember