



"The Peak of Good Living"

TOWN OF APEX NORTH CAROLINA

Proclamation

Juneteenth 2026

from the Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, In 1776, the United States declared its freedom from Britain, but for 89 more years, millions of Black Americans remained enslaved and unable to reap the benefits of the promise of that so-called freedom; and,

WHEREAS, On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, setting in motion the end of slavery in the United States, and on June 19, 1865, Union General Gordon Granger announced General Order No. 3, proclaiming that all enslaved individuals were free; and,

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, formally known as Juneteenth National Independence Day, is the oldest Black-American holiday, and celebrates the day when all Americans were finally free to live their own lives; and,

WHEREAS, 161 years after enslaved individuals were freed, civil rights and equality issues persist for Black Americans, and the Town of Apex is committed to leading the way in continuing to improve fairness and equality; and,

WHEREAS, The Town of Apex is proud to host our annual Juneteenth in the Peak event, organized by the Apex Juneteenth Festival Committee, beginning at 1:00 PM on Saturday, June 20th at Town Hall Campus for a day full of celebrations, music, food, stories, and much more.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of Apex, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 19th, 2026, "Juneteenth" in the Town of Apex, and encourage all residents to join in the celebration of Juneteenth and the true promise of freedom that it brings, and continue to love and support all people in our community.

I hereby set my hand and have caused the Seal of the Town of Apex,
North Carolina, to be affixed this the 9th day of June, 2026

Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor