

**WHEREAS,** Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. challenged our Nation to recognize that our individual liberty relies upon our common equality; and

**WHEREAS,** at a time when our Nation was sharply divided, Dr. King called on a generation of Americans to be "voices of reason, sanity, and understanding amid the voices of violence, hatred, and emotion"; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King devoted his life to the struggle for justice and equality, sowing seeds of hope for a day when all people might claim "the riches of freedom and the security of justice"; and

**WHEREAS,** on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday, we commemorate the 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the holiday recognizing one of America's greatest visionary leaders, and we celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. King; and

**WHEREAS,** Dr. King's "I Have A Dream Speech" turns 61 in 2024, and reminds us to recognize that in these challenging times, too many Americans face limited opportunities, but our capacity to support each other remains limitless; and

**WHEREAS,** we must face the challenges with the same strength, persistence and determination exhibited by Dr. King; and

WHEREAS, the walk's theme is "A Day On...Not A Day Off!"; and

**WHEREAS**, the American people are called to engage in public service and promote nonviolent social change so that Dr. King's unfinished movement toward equality can be achieved by our united, enduring efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, in the City of Bastrop, Texas, all citizens are urged to join with Bastrop High School, Smithville High School, Elgin High School, McDade High School, Cedar Creek High School and Colorado River Collegiate Academy in supporting the Scholarship Program during the annual walk; and

**WHEREAS**, all citizens are also urged to join in the 35<sup>th</sup> annual walk on January 15, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. beginning at MLK Park, 1101 MLK Drive, Smithville, Texas for universal peace, justice, human rights, and social and economic progress for all people.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Lyle Nelson, Mayor of the City of Bastrop, Texas, do hereby proclaim Monday, January 15, 2024, as:

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Bastrop, Texas to be affixed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.

Lyle Nelson, Mayor

