

~ PROCLAMATION ~

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, we reflect on the sacrifices and celebrate the many achievements and significant contributions made by African Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month grew out of the establishment, in 1926, of Negro History Week by Dr. Carter G. Woodson who is known as the “Father of Black History Month” and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH); and

WHEREAS, the 2021 national theme for observance is “Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity” and explores the African diaspora, and the spread of Black families across the United States - from single to two-parent households to nuclear, extended and, more recently, bi-racial. Throughout black history, factors such as slavery, inequality and poverty have put pressure on maintaining family ties, when a better life meant traveling far from home; and

WHEREAS, economic pressures that may pull black families apart also often unite them, and through prejudice and bigotry, many black families may pool resources or find job opportunities, or simply find emotional comfort within their own micro-community; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Black History Month calls our attention to the continued need to battle racism and build a society that lives up to its democratic ideals; and

WHEREAS, African Americans locally have and continue to make substantial contributions to industries of all kinds in our region and beyond; and

WHEREAS, African American leaders and innovators have and continue to leave an indelible imprint on our community by presenting an example of the rewards of hard work and perseverance. We honor and celebrate those contributions - past and present - throughout the month of February; and

WHEREAS, the City of Camas recognizes that racial and ethnic diversity enriches our community; and acknowledges the challenges that African Americans face in achieving equity, opportunity, and social mobility; and

WHEREAS, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging are priorities and we are committed to working with our community to eradicate racism in all forms to provide an inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, the City of Camas is proud to honor the history and contributions of African Americans in our community, throughout our region, state, and nation. We are determined to work towards eliminating disparities in communities of color, and creating a better future ensuring safety, trust, and belonging for all in our community;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Barry McDonnell, Mayor of the City of Camas, do hereby proclaim
February 2021, as:

“Black History Month”

in the City of Camas, and encourage all citizens this month, and throughout the year to observe, celebrate, and honor Black history and culture in our efforts to create a world that is more just, peaceful, and prosperous for all through appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In witness whereof, I have set my hand and
caused the seal of the City of Camas to be affixed
this 1st day of February, 2021.



Barry McDonnell, Mayor