



Town of Eatonville, Florida

PROCLAMATION

Office of the Mayor

National Historic Preservation Month

WHEREAS, the Town of Eatonville is recognized as the oldest black incorporated town in America and shares in the collective efforts to maintain its history through historic preservation.

WHEREAS, Historic Preservation is an effective tool for promoting sustainable development, revitalizing neighborhoods, fostering local pride, promoting tourism, maintaining community character, and capturing history through the built environment; and

WHEREAS, it is important to acknowledge and celebrate the benefit of history, architecture, and archeology to our lives and the contributions made by dedicated individuals in helping to preserve the tangible aspects of the heritage that has shaped our town; and

WHEREAS, historic preservation can be the center of community discussion; uniting residents behind an important cause; in preserving older buildings in our town, jobs created and property value is stabilized; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Eatonville is undergoing a Historic Resources Survey of its historic properties, thereby laying the groundwork towards cultural heritage tourism economic advances; while documenting and protecting the community heritage of the town; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Eatonville has an established Historic Preservation Board who is the gatekeepers to the town's historic preservation initiatives; and such board shall be complementary to the state historic preservation board office; and proudly, the town has achieved Certified Local Government (CLG) status in accordance with requirements of the State of Florida's Division of Historical Resources, Bureau of Historic Preservation;

WHEREAS, the Town of Eatonville town council continues to demonstrate its commitment to historic preservation, in part, call upon the people of Town of Eatonville to join their fellow citizens across the United States in recognizing and participating in this special observance.

NOW THEREFORE, that the Town of Eatonville, Orange County, Florida, along with Mayor Ruthi Critton, Vice Mayor Angela Thomas, Council Members LaDwyana Jordan, Wanda D. Randolph, and Tarus Mack observe the month of National Historic Preservation Month.

Issued this 19th day of May 2026.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto have set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Eatonville to be affixed.

ATTEST:

Honorable Ruthi Critton, Mayor

Veronica L. King, Town Clerk