



RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation was issued January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved were free; and

WHEREAS, African Americans who had been slaves in the Southwest celebrated June 19, commonly known as "Juneteenth Independence Day", as inspiration and encouragement for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Greeley acknowledges the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day to the United States and recognizes that the end of slavery is an important part of the history and heritage of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth Independence Day provides an opportunity for the people of the United States to learn more about the past and to better understand the experiences that have shaped the United States; and

WHEREAS, the City of Greeley encourages all residents to commit themselves to the work of equity, equality, and justice.

THEREFORE, I, John Gates, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Greeley, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2022, as Juneteenth Independence Day in the City of Greeley, and encourage all residents to celebrate Juneteenth at the Marcus Garvey Cultural Center on the campus of the University of Northern Colorado.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Greeley, Colorado, this 7th day of June 2022.

Brett Payton
Mayor Pro Tem