

CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH

PROCLAMATION

Happy 100th Birthday!

WHEREAS, 2026 marks a milestone of both progress and persistence in the United States, the 100th anniversary of federal recognition for Black Americans. What began as a singular week of learning and recognition has grown into an overall cultural observance of Black History throughout the month of February; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Black History Month was created in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a prominent African American historian, scholar, educator, and publisher, with a simple yet ambitious goal: to integrate African American history into educational curricula, public libraries, local churches, and communities across the country. He envisioned this week not as a symbolic gesture, but as a permanent shift in how America viewed and understood itself; and

WHEREAS, for the centennial theme, "A Century of Black History Commemorations," the founders of Black History Month urge the nation to explore the impact and significance of Black history and the commemoration of Black lives in transforming the condition of Black people in the modern world. Black history is American history and remembering it strengthens us all; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month is often associated with well-known iconic figures, but its true purpose is to unearth thousands of stories that were once ignored: scientists, entrepreneurs, artists, academics, inventors, political leaders, soldiers, and ordinary citizens who contributed to shaping the nation. Woodson warned: "If a race has no history, it has no worthwhile tradition... it stands in danger of being exterminated."; and

WHEREAS, The City of Lake Worth Beach celebrates the ongoing contribution to our community, the state, the country, and the world and continues to work toward becoming an inclusive community in which all citizens, past, present, and future, are respected and recognized for their contributions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Betty Resch, Mayor of the City of Lake Worth Beach, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim

FEBRUARY 2026

as

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

in the City of Lake Worth Beach, Florida, in accordance with the nationwide observance of the same and urge all citizens to celebrate our diverse heritage, arts and culture and continue our efforts to create a world that is more just, peaceful and prosperous for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Lake Worth Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 3rd day of February 2026.

Betty Resch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa Ann Coyne, MMC, City Clerk