



Proclamation

Of the Mayor

Of the City of Los Altos, California

WHEREAS, on September 22, 1862, President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed enslaved peoples in the Confederate States that had been liberated by Union troops; and

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863 the Emancipation Proclamation took effect, but was only promulgated slowly throughout the affected states; and

WHEREAS, On January 31, 1865 the 13th Amendment passed the U.S. Congress, freeing all slaves nationwide, including those in Delaware and Kentucky – the “border states” with the Confederacy where slavery had continued; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, Major General Gordan Granger issued General Orders #3 in Galveston, Texas, informing the people of Texas that, in accordance with the Emancipation Proclamation, “all slaves are free;” and

WHEREAS, on December 6, 1865, the 13th Amendment was ratified, although the last enslaved people present in the continental United States were only freed in 1866, when the enslaved people held in the “Indian Territories” that had sided with the Confederacy were released; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth became a traditional celebration in Texas among freed slaves and their descendants that has spread across the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth has become a symbol and celebration of new beginnings for descendants of slaves across the world, including the Mascogos, descendants of Black Seminoles who escaped from slavery in 1852 and settled in Coahuila, Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth was made a state holiday in Texas in 1980, the first state to do so; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2021, the President signed into law S. 475, “The Juneteenth National Independence Day Act,” designating Juneteenth as a legal public holiday; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a day to celebrate the day that brought new beginnings to African-Americans, a culture which has contributed to every part of American history, science, literature, art, culture, and politics;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Anita Enander, Mayor of the City of Los Altos, and on behalf of the entire Los Altos City Council, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2022, as **JUNETEENTH DAY**, to recognize the cultural and historical significance of this day and in hopes that all Los Altos residents will take the opportunity learn about and share the joy and optimism that this foundational day in Black culture represents.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Los Altos this 29th day of March, 2022.

Anita Enander, MAYOR