



PROCLAMATION Black History Month February 2025

WHEREAS, February is recognized as Black History Month, a time to honor the rich history, culture, and contributions of Black Americans, who have shaped our nation through their resilience, achievements, and enduring spirit; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Black History began in 1926, when scholar Carter G. Woodson introduced "Negro History Week" to bring attention to the significant role of Black Americans in U.S. history; and

WHEREAS, during the 1960s, this week-long recognition expanded into Black History Month, intentionally aligning with the February birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln to highlight their impact on the fight for freedom and equality; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Congress passed Public Law 99-244, officially designating February as "National Black (Afro-American) History Month" and encouraging all Americans to honor this vital aspect of our nation's heritage; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month celebrates the contributions of Black Americans throughout all periods of U.S. history, from those enslaved in the early 17th century to the leaders, innovators, and community builders of today; and

WHEREAS, countries around the world have joined the United States in commemorating the influence of Black people on global history, culture, and progress; and

WHEREAS, observing Black History Month provides a vital opportunity to deepen our understanding of history, reflect on the ongoing struggle for equality and justice, and celebrate the achievements of those who paved the way for a more inclusive society; and

WHEREAS, we must honor the men and women whose sacrifices and unwavering dedication to civil rights, freedom, and equality continue to inspire generations and enrich American culture;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Colleen Whitlow, Mayor of the Town of Mead, Weld County, Colorado, do hereby proclaim February 2025 as Black History Month. I urge all residents of Mead to celebrate and draw inspiration from this rich legacy as we strive together toward equality, liberty, and opportunity for all.

Given under my hand and Seal of the Town of Mead, Colorado On this 27TH day of January 2025

Colleen G. Whitlow Mayor