



City of Ellensburg PROCLAMATION

A Proclamation on Juneteenth Day of Observance 2025

WHEREAS, Juneteenth became the latest official federal holiday in the United States in 2021; and

WHEREAS, over 2 years after President Abraham Lincoln declared all enslaved persons free, Union Army troops marched to Galveston, Texas, to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation and free the last enslaved Black Americans in this country; and

WHEREAS, these newly-freed men, women and children celebrated their long-overdue emancipation on June 19, 1865, establishing what continues to be an annual day of celebration for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a day to celebrate the power and resilience of Black Americans who have endured generations of oppression in their ongoing journey toward equal justice, equal dignity, equal rights, and equal opportunity in America; and

WHEREAS, we commemorate Juneteenth: a chance to celebrate human freedom, reflect on the grievous and ongoing legacy of slavery, rededicate ourselves to rooting out systemic racism, honor the rich history of the Black community in Ellensburg; and

WHEREAS, the Ellensburg Downtown Association, the City's DEI Commission, the Kittitas County Historical Museum, the CWU Library and associated campus programs have collaborated and planned a city-wide Juneteenth Celebration on June 19 for residents and visitors of our City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor of Ellensburg, does hereby proclaim June 19, 2025 as Juneteenth Day of Observance and invites every everyone to join in the June 19th celebration and festivities in downtown Ellensburg.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2025.


Attest:
Betty Pendleton
City Clerk


Rich Elliott, Mayor