



Black History Month February 2020

Whereas: The City of Roseville is committed to recognizing and honoring the contributions of all members of our communities; and

Whereas: Negro History Week was established in 1926 by Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson as a way to neutralize the deliberate distortion of Black History; and

Whereas: This movement grew over the years to Black History Month to give an objective and scholarly balance in American and World History; and

Whereas: The Month of February was selected as Black History Month because it marks the birth of Frederick Douglas, W.E.B. DuBois, Langston Hughes, and Abraham Lincoln, leaders whose actions greatly impacted the lives of the American Black population; and

Whereas: The contributions African Americans made and continue to make to our nation's economic strength as well as to our history, music, arts, national defense from the Revolutionary War to present-Day military operations, written words and discoveries, and inventions are often overlooked; and

Whereas: On January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation set the United States on the path of ending slavery. On August 28, 1963, hundreds of thousands of Americans of all backgrounds joined the March on Washington which was led by Martin Luther King, Jr., Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), James Farmer; Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), John Lewis; Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), A. Phillip Randolph; Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Roy Wilkins; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and Whitney Young, Jr. (National Urban League) in pursuit of jobs, justice and freedom to the Memorial of Abraham Lincoln, the author of the Emancipation Proclamation, in pursuit of freedom and equality for all; and

Whereas: Despite all the progress, the legacy of slavery and segregation still persists in our nation in the forms of Mass Incarceration, the school to prison pipeline, racial profiling, educational inequalities, housing and employment discrimination, racism and bias; and

Whereas: In 2020, Black History Month honors the sesquicentennial of the Fifteenth Amendment (1870) granting black men the right to vote with the theme '*African Americans and the Vote*'; and

Whereas: The City of Roseville invites all members of the Roseville Community to renew their commitment to ensuring racial equality, understanding and justice and to participate in activities designed to advance the cause of freedom and equality for all.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the City Council hereby declare February 2020 to be Black History Month in the City of Roseville, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota, U.S.A.

In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Roseville be affixed this 27th day of January, 2020.

Mayor Daniel J. Roe