

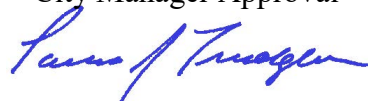
ROSEVILLE
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Date: January 4, 2021
Item No.: 5.a

Department Approval



City Manager Approval



Item Description: Proclaiming Martin Luther King Jr. Day

BACKGROUND

The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on January 16, 2021 marks the 26th anniversary of the day of service that celebrates the Civil Rights leader’s life and legacy. Observed each year on the third Monday in January as “a day on, not a day off”, MLK Day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. This day of service helps to empower individuals, strengthen communities, bridge barriers, address social problems and move us closer to Dr. King’s vision of a “Beloved Community”.

Dr. King recognized the power of service. He famously said, "Everyone can be great because everybody can serve." Observing the Martin Luther King, Jr. federal holiday through service honors Dr. King's life and teachings, helps meet community challenges and also brings people together of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. The MLK Day of Service encourages all types of service, particularly projects that have a lasting impact and connect participants to ongoing service. The most successful projects connect to the life and teaching of Dr. King, meet a pressing community need, and include time to reflect on his teachings.

For the past several years, the City of Roseville has observed this day of service by partnering with our volunteer force to make improvements in the ecology of the city. Again in 2021, staff is planning to hold an event on MLK day for “A Day On, Not a Day Off” at the Cedarholm Community Building to provide an educational overview of the city’s natural resources renewal efforts and training on how to prevent the spread of invasive species. More information as it relates to safety precautions and details of the event will be determined closer to the date and in line with Minnesota Department of Health guidelines.

As we look to further integrate the concepts, and ideas of this proclamation into more areas of our community and organization, staff will be developing ideas for 2022 that can expand the volunteer opportunities, and communication efforts.

POLICY OBJECTIVE

Proclamations are issued to recognize the importance of a community event, significant achievements by a community member or group, or to increase public awareness of a worthy cause.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Read and approve the proclamation and proclaim Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

36 **REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION**

37 Proclaim Martin Luther King Jr. Day as January 18th, 2021 in the City of Roseville and read the
38 proclamation.

Prepared by: Rebecca Olson, Assistant City Manager (651) 792-7446

Attachments: A. Proclamation



Martin Luther King Jr Day January 18, 2021

Whereas: The City of Roseville recognizes and honors the work of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; and

Whereas: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was the chief spokesperson for nonviolent activism in the civil rights movement, which successfully protested racial discrimination in federal and state law; and

Whereas: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was jailed and arrested numerous times for speaking out against racism and discrimination and for trying to help African Americans to register and vote; and

Whereas: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in December, 1964; and

Whereas: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968 because of his fight for equality and civil rights for all; and

Whereas: An Act of Congress of the United States in 1983, declared the third Monday in January to officially honor Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; and

Whereas: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said “Life’s most persistent and urgent question is what are you doing for others;” and

Whereas: Each year, Americans across the country answer that question by coming together on Martin Luther King Day to serve their neighbors and communities.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the City Council hereby declare January 18, 2021, to be Martin Luther King Jr. Day in the City of Roseville and urges all citizens to join together to honor Dr. King by committing to volunteering in the community.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Roseville to be affixed this 4th day of January, 2021.

Mayor Daniel J. Roe