

HAYWARD CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 21-\_\_\_\_

Introduced by Council Member \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 19 OF EACH YEAR AS JUNETEENTH IN THE  
CITY OF HAYWARD AND ESTABLISHING A CITY BUSINESS CLOSURE DAY

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, also known as "Juneteenth Independence Day," "Emancipation Day," "Liberation Day," "Emancipation Celebration," "Black Independence Day," and "Freedom Day," commemorates and marks the effective end of slavery in the United States on June 19, 1865, almost two and one-half years after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, on that day, Union Army Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, to announce the end of both the Civil War and slavery, and read out loud General Order No. 3, which stated in part: "The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equity of rights and rights of property between masters and former slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer"; and

WHEREAS, observance of Juneteenth National Freedom Day, a reminder of emancipation, spread from Texas to the neighboring states of Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma, as well as Alabama, Florida, and California, where many African American Texans immigrated; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth National Freedom Day symbolizes freedom, celebrates the abolishment of slavery, and reminds all Americans of the significant contributions of African Americans to our society; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth holds an important place in United States history for all Americans to reflect on, learn about, and appreciate the struggles, triumphs, and continued growth of our nation as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates and honors African-American ancestors who survived the inhumane institution of bondage, as well as demonstrating pride in the marvelous legacy of resistance and perseverance, and now serves as a historic milestone reminding Americans of the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of slavery.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Hayward does hereby determine effective June 1, 2021, the City of Hayward recognizes Juneteenth and will observe an annual business closure on June 19 each year, or the closest business day to June 19.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council urges all in Hayward to honor and reflect on the significant role African Americans have played in the history of the United States and how African Americans have enriched society through their commitment to promoting equality.

IN COUNCIL, HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:            COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
                     MAYOR:

NOES:           COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSTAIN:       COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSENT:        COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ATTESTED: \_\_\_\_\_  
   City Clerk of the City of Hayward

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney of the City of Hayward