

RESOLUTION NO. 22-381

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENMORE, WASHINGTON, DECLARING JUNETEENTH (JUNE 19) AN OFFICIAL CITY HOLIDAY AND AMENDING THE CITY'S PERSONNEL POLICY TO ADD JUNETEENTH TO THE LIST OF PAID HOLIDAYS FOR CITY EMPLOYEES.

WHEREAS, in 1619, Europeans brought twenty captured Africans to the Virginia Colony against their will to work as slaves, thereby founding a wicked, sinful, and unjust system of race-based slavery that persisted through the founding of the United States as a nation in 1776 and for 88 further years until its abolition in 1865, after 246 years of abhorrently ignoring the values upon which the Nation supposedly rested; and

WHEREAS, June 19, Juneteenth, marks the date in 1865 when Union army arrived in the last Confederate State to receive the announcement of the end of slavery, Texas, to read and enforce the Emancipation Proclamation, almost two-and-a-half years after President Abraham Lincoln issued it on January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1866, the first anniversary of that occasion, Black Americans in Texas celebrated the first Juneteenth, a festival of remembrance that has subsequently spread throughout America; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest celebration of the end of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate Black American freedom, culture, and achievement, encourage respect for all cultures, and reflect on the history of slavery and the lives lost in the fight for equal rights; and

WHEREAS, formal recognition of Juneteenth will provide for official recognition of this momentous day and increase awareness of the past, present, and future struggle for equality; and

WHEREAS, we honor those who suffered and acknowledge the evils of slavery and the legacy of persecution it left behind; and

WHEREAS, systemic racism persists across and throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, we continue to pursue the goal of racial equity that has so long evaded us; and

WHEREAS, we commit to work toward equity in expanding economic, educational, and career opportunities for everyone in our community; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed into law the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act, making Juneteenth the twelfth official federal holiday; and

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2021, Governor Jay Inslee signed House Bill 1016 into law, establishing Juneteenth as a legal holiday in the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kenmore strives to be an inclusive and welcoming community for all that engages in difficult conversations, actively listens to concerns about institutional racism, and takes action to address bias and injustice;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENMORE, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. June 19 shall henceforth be recognized and celebrated by the City of Kenmore as Juneteenth.

Section 2. Section 6.10.1 of the Personnel Policies shall be amended as indicated in Exhibit A to include Juneteenth as a holiday officially recognized by the City.

RESOLVED by the City Council this 28th day of March 2022.

APPROVED:


Nigel Herbig (Mar 29, 2022 12:01 PDT)
MAYOR NIGEL HERBIG

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:


Anastasiya Warhol (Mar 29, 2022 13:47 PDT)
CITY CLERK, ANASTASIYA WARHOL


Dawn Reitan (Mar 29, 2022 12:03 PDT)
CITY ATTORNEY, DAWN REITAN

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: 3/17/22
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: 3/28/22
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Exhibit A

6.10 HOLIDAYS

6.10.1 The following holidays are recognized by the City:

New Years Day	January 1
Martin Luther King's Birthday	3rd Monday in January
President's Day	3rd Monday in February
Memorial Day	Last Monday in May
Juneteenth	June 19
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	1st Monday in September
Veteran's Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	4th Thursday in November
Day After Thanksgiving	4th Friday in November
Christmas Day	December 25
Floating Holiday	(must be taken within the calendar year)












Juneteenth Resolution 22-381

Final Audit Report

2022-03-29

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