

City of Albany

IN RECOGNITION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH February 2023

WHEREAS, Black History Month in February celebrates the achievements and contributions that African Americans have made and the central role of African Americans in US history; and

WHEREAS, during Black History Month we remember and reflect on the struggles faced by African Americans to be treated equally throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS, historian and author Dr. Carter G. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915 and initiated the first Negro History Week in February 1926, the particular week selected for the inclusion of the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, two key figures in the history of African Americans; and

WHEREAS, the selected theme for 2023 is “Black Resistance” to recognize the efforts by African Americans to resist historic and ongoing oppression and to advocate for a dignified self-determined life in a just democratic society; and

WHEREAS, African Americans have achieved triumphs and progress as seen in the end of chattel slavery, dismantling of Jim and Jane Crow segregation in the South, increased political representation at all levels of government, desegregation of educational institutions, the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the opening of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History in Washington DC and increased and diverse representation of African American experiences in media; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month also recognizes the important though often untold roles and achievements African Americans have played in our history, identity, culture, economy, literature, sports, and politics; and

WHEREAS, the City is thankful to the ongoing leadership within our community including the work by the Albany High School Black Student Union and the Albany Unified School District Black Parent Advisory Group.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Albany City Council does hereby proclaim February 2023 as Black History Month in the City of Albany. We acknowledge the contributions of African Americans in our community and encourage the Albany community to learn about the history of African Americans' response to establish safe spaces, where African American life can be sustained, fortified, and respected.

Date: February 6, 2023

City of Albany Proclamation No. 2023-02



AARON TIEDEMANN, MAYOR