

**CITY OF WEST RICHLAND  
RESOLUTION NO. 21-21**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON,  
AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF A PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING JUNE  
19, 2021 AS JUNETEENTH DAY**

**WHEREAS**, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring the enslaved people in Confederate territory free as of January 1, 1863, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished the institution of slavery in the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, news of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed some two and one half years, to June 19, 1865, in Galveston, Texas when Union General Gordon Granger read "General Order No. 3" announcing the total abolishment of slavery; and

**WHEREAS**, June 19th has a special meaning to African-Americans, and is called "JUNETEENTH" combining the words June and Nineteenth, and has been celebrated by the African-American community for over 150 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the African-American community in the Tri-Cities has made significant contributions to the history and quality of life for all living in the Tri-Cities; and

**WHEREAS**, the annual Juneteenth celebration in the City of Pasco has been occurring over the last several decades; and


**WHEREAS**, the State of Washington has officially recognized June 19th as Juneteenth since 2007 and on May 13th, 2021 Washington became the 6th state in the nation to recognize Juneteenth as an official paid state holiday beginning 2022.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, does hereby resolve as follows:**

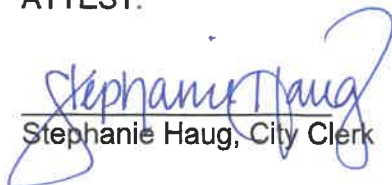
That the City Council for the City of West Richland, in consultation with Mayor Brent Gerry, does hereby proclaim that June 19, 2021 as Juneteenth Day; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution shall take effect immediately and that the Mayor of the City of West Richland, Washington, is hereby authorized and directed to sign the Proclamation, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as **Exhibit A**.

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2021.**

  
Brent Gerry, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Stephanie Haug, City Clerk



## ***PROCLAMATION***

***WHEREAS***, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring the enslaved people in Confederate territory free as of January 1, 1863, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished the institution of slavery in the United States of America; and

***WHEREAS***, news of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed some two and one half years, to June 19, 1865, in Galveston, Texas when Union General Gordon Granger read "General Order No. 3" announcing the total abolishment of slavery; and

***WHEREAS***, June 19th has a special meaning to African-Americans, and is called "JUNETEENTH" combining the words June and Nineteenth, and has been celebrated by the African-American community for over 150 years; and

***WHEREAS***, the African-American community in the Tri-Cities has made significant contributions to the history and quality of life for all living in the Tri-Cities; and

***WHEREAS***, the annual Juneteenth celebration in the City of Pasco has been occurring over the last several decades; and

***WHEREAS***, the State of Washington has officially recognized June 19th as Juneteenth since 2007 and on May 13th, 2021 Washington became the 6th state in the nation to recognize Juneteenth as an official paid state holiday beginning in 2022.

***NOW, THEREFORE***, I, Brent Gerry, Mayor of the City of West Richland, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2021 to be

### ***Juneteenth Day***

*in the City of West Richland, Washington, and urge all to become more aware of the significance of this celebration in African-American History and in the heritage of our nation and City.*

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF*** I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed hereto the official seal of the City of West Richland Washington.

---

*Brent Gerry, Mayor*