

City of Colorado Springs, Colorado

Proclamation

**Juneteenth
June 19, 2024**

WHEREAS, June 19th is declared as Juneteenth Freedom Day, a nationally recognized day which celebrates the rich culture, legacy and heritage of Black and African American people; and

WHEREAS, on Juneteenth, we commemorate that day and honor the tireless work of abolitionists who made it their mission to deliver the promise of America for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the resilience of the African American Community and the progress we have made together from the abolition of slavery to the Civil Rights movement and beyond, and continue the tireless efforts to overcome systematic injustice; and

WHEREAS, we honor the generations of activists to include Ms. Opal Lee affectionally known as the "*Grandmother of Juneteenth*" who was recently awarded the Presidential Medal of Honor for her dedication to ensuring that Juneteenth be recognized as a federal holiday. Ms. Lee at the age of 89 embarked on a 1,400 mile walk from Ft. Worth, Texas to Washington DC to raise awareness and educate on the importance of the Juneteenth holiday. Ms. Lee and others have advanced the need for our Nation to recognize Juneteenth; and

WHEREAS, we are committed to the American promise. A promise of freedom, liberty and justice; and our ongoing work to realize that promise for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Mayor and City Council of Colorado Springs, do hereby recognize Juneteenth and call upon our community to reaffirm their commitment to eradicating hate and racism while continuing the work of hope in our great nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Colorado Springs to be affixed this eleventh day of June 2024.

Yemi Mobolade, Mayor
City of Colorado Springs

Randy Helms, President
Colorado Springs City Council