City of Colorado Springs, Colorado

Proclamation

Juneteenth Freedom Day
June 19th, 2025

WHEREAS, June 19th, known as Juneteenth Freedom Day, is a federal holiday commemorating the end of slavery in the United States and celebrating the enduring legacy, culture, and heritage of African American communities; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth marks the day in 1865 when Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation and informed enslaved African Americans of their freedom symbolizing a long-overdue fulfillment of liberty and justice for all; and

WHEREAS, on this day, we honor the courage and sacrifice of civil rights leaders including the unwavering commitment of Ms. Opal Lee, lovingly known as the "Grandmother of Juneteenth," who at the age of 89, conducted a symbolic walk from Fort Worth, Texas to Washington, D.C., raising national awareness and inspiring the successful campaign to make Juneteenth a federal holiday; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the contributions of African American residents to the civic, cultural, and economic development of Colorado Springs, as well as ongoing leadership and advocacy in community organizations, education, and public service; and

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs is committed to being a culturally rich, vibrant and welcoming community and celebrating Juneteenth as an opportunity to reflect on our history, learn from it, and continue to build a city where all residents are seen and valued.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lynette Crow-Iverson, President of the Colorado Springs City Council, and I, Blessing "Yemi" Mobolade, Mayor of Colorado Springs, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2025, as

JUNETEENTH FREEDOM DAY

in the city of Colorado Springs and call upon all members of our community to commemorate this day with reflection, education, and celebration, and to reaffirm our collective commitment to supporting opportunities for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Colorado Springs to be affixed this 19th day of June 2025.

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Lynette Crow-Iverson, President
Colorado Springs City Council

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Blessing "Yemi" Mobolade, Mayor
City of Colorado Springs