

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 26

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 19, 2026 AS
JUNETEENTH FREEDOM DAY

WHEREAS, June 19th, known as Juneteenth Freedom Day, is a nationally recognized holiday commemorating the end of slavery in the United States and celebrating the enduring legacy, culture, and heritage of Black and 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, known as the "Grandmother of Juneteenth," who raised national awareness and inspired the successful campaign to make Juneteenth a federal holiday; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the contributions of Black residents to the civic, cultural, and economic development of Colorado Springs;

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs is committed to being a culturally rich and welcoming community, and celebrating Juneteenth as an opportunity to reflect on our history and learn from it.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. City Council recognizes June 19, 2026 as Juneteenth 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.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado this 9th day of June, 2026.

Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk