

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

PROCLAMATION

OBSERVING JUNETEENTH IN THE CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

This proclamation recognizes Juneteenth in the City of Hyattsville as a day to honor, educate, and reflect on the resilience and determination of African Americans throughout history, highlighting their contributions to our nation and the world in the ongoing fight for human rights.

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, legislating freedom for enslaved African Americans across the U.S; and

WHEREAS, because this legislation was initially largely ignored by slaveholders, more than two years later on June 19, 1865, soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas to inform the last of the enslaved African Americans of their liberty, marking the day as Juneteenth; and

WHEREAS, since 1865, Juneteenth freedom celebrations have taken place throughout the United States, and in June 2021 the holiday received recognition as a Federally observed holiday; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hyattsville acknowledges the history of racism toward African Americans in our country and the significance of sharing, analyzing, and understanding this history to effectively combat systemic racism; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is now an opportunity and call to action for all Hyattsville residents to self-educate and commit to social actions which address racial inequalities still faced by African-Americans today.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Hyattsville Mayor and Council do hereby recognize Juneteenth in the City of Hyattsville and invites its residents to celebrate the holiday with a Juneteenth Summer Jam neighborhood celebration on Friday, June 16, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Hyatt Park, 3500 Hamilton Street.

Robert Croslin
Mayor, City of Hyattsville

June 5, 2023

