

## **Proclamation**

### **“Juneteenth Month”**

**June 2023**

**Whereas**, President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation in 1862 and it was signed January 1, 1863, declaring the slaves in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and word about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed some two and one half years, to June 19, 1865, in reaching authorities and African-Americans in the South and Southwestern United States; and,

**Whereas**, Juneteenth, also known as Juneteenth Independence Day or Freedom Day, commemorates the June 19, 1865, announcement, called Order No. 3, of the abolition of slavery and the emancipation of enslaved African Americans throughout the former U.S. Confederacy; and,

**Whereas**, to observe and celebrate Juneteenth as a significant day in American history, recognizing the end of slavery and the enduring struggle for equality and justice. We urge all citizens to participate in educational and commemorative events that promote understanding and appreciation of African American culture and history; and,

**Whereas**, we commend the efforts of the Adams County Diversity and Inclusion Council (A-PROUD) for fostering an environment that embraces diversity, equity, and inclusion. We acknowledge the importance of providing platforms for open dialogue and collaboration among team members, as these initiatives contribute to building a stronger, more united community; and,

**Whereas**, we recognize that the legacy of systemic racism persists in our state and that it is our collective responsibility to dismantle it. We affirm our commitment to working tirelessly towards creating a society where every individual, regardless of their race or ethnicity, can live in safety and flourish. By promoting equality and fostering inclusivity, we strive to ensure equal opportunities for all residents of Adams County, including those who identify as Black, Indigenous, Brown, and White; and,

**Whereas**, we acknowledge that Juneteenth serves as a symbol of freedom and a reminder of the ongoing journey towards achieving true equality. As we join communities across Adams County and the United States in commemorating this day, we pledge to continue our efforts to promote social justice, fight against discrimination, and build a future where every person can thrive.

**Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved**, that the Board of Commissioners, of the County of Adams, State of Colorado, proclaims June 2023, as

### **“Juneteenth Month”**

and encourages all residents to support this day.

*In witness whereof, we have set our hands and caused the seal of the county to be affixed June 20, 2023.*