

P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, in Oregon, the earliest documented African American is Marcus Lopez, a crew member on the ship Lady Washington in Tillamook on August 14, 1788; and

WHEREAS, in February 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson introduced Negro History Week and in 1976, Black History Month was formally adopted to honor and affirm the importance of Black History throughout America; and

WHEREAS, each February, communities across Oregon join to celebrate Black History Month and provide Oregonians with an opportunity to pay tribute to the African American community and the richness of black culture that has helped shape our state and city; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month is a time for all residents of the City of Salem to remember those Black Pioneers who advanced civil rights, fortified communities and families, educated their children, and contributed to the communities in which they lived; and

WHEREAS, we pay tribute to African American history and we recognize the Oregon Northwest Black Pioneers for their focus and effort to make known the Oregon African American story; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Chuck Bennett, Mayor of the City of Salem, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2019, as

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

in the City of Salem, Oregon, and encourage all residents to join in learning about and celebrating the contributions African Americans have made to our country, our state and to our community.

DATED this twenty-eighth day of January, 2019.



Chuck Bennett
Mayor