

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, in 1915, Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson, a noted Black scholar and son of former slaves, founded the Association for the Study of African American Life and History; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Woodson initiated Black History Week, February 12, 1926; and for many years, the second week of February, chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln, was celebrated by African Americans in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, it imperative that each of us learns about, sheds light upon, and condemns the inhumanity of injustices and inequities that Black and African Americans continue to experience and endure, but moreover that each of us takes action to realize true reforms; and

**WHEREAS**, the Salem City Council has denounced racism as a systemic issue creating disparate outcomes in many areas of life including family stability. On January 25, 2021, Council adopted Resolution 2021-2, condemning white supremacy and racism, and Resolution 2021-3, affirming that racism is a public health crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month celebrates the achievements of African Americans in the Arts, Civil Rights, Education, Entertainment, Government, History, Law, Literature, Medicine, Military, Music, Politics, Science, Sports, and other endeavors; and

**WHEREAS**, we at the City of Salem proudly commend the many achievements, successes, and contributions of African Americans, whose roots begin with a foundation of incredible strength, resilience, creativity, and unity; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in recognition of African Americans – past and present – in our community I, Julie Hoy, Mayor of the City of Salem, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2025, 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 our community.

**DATED** this tenth day of February 2025.



Julie Hoy  
Mayor

A blue ink signature of Julie Hoy is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive. It is located in the bottom right area of the document, to the right of the official title.