



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, since 1976, every United States president has officially designated the month of February as national Black History Month to honor and affirm the importance of Black history throughout our American experience; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coos Bay takes pride in joining Americans throughout the county in recognizing February as Black History Month; and

**WHEREAS**, African Americans have played significant roles and made lasting contributions to our City's history and the history of Oregon's economic, cultural, spiritual and political development, while working tirelessly to contribute to every aspect of American society including business, education, politics, science, and the arts; and

**WHEREAS**, the presence and contributions of Black communities continue to enhance the quality of life in the City of Coos Bay; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month calls our nation's attention to recognize and celebrate the essential contributions and resilience of Black communities, while acknowledging the injustices that remain; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is a time where all Americans are encouraged to reflect on our collective history of slavery and oppression of Black communities and recommit to prioritizing racial equity, inclusion, and respect for human dignity in all that we do; and

**WHEREAS**, though we celebrate Black History Month in February, we affirm that Black history is American history and recognize it as an ever-present part of our collective experience that we must pass on and learn from; and

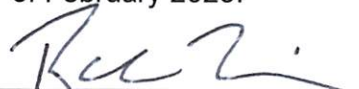
**NOW THEREFORE** I, Joe Benetti, Mayor of the City of Coos Bay, and on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2023 as

## Black History Month

in the City of Coos Bay and encourage everyone to eliminate prejudice everywhere it exists, respect the rights of all people, and to celebrate the great diversity of our city.



In witness thereof, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Coos Bay to be affixed on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023.

  
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Rob Miles, Council President  
on Behalf of Mayor Joe Benetti