



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 to contribute to every aspect of American society including business, education, politics, science, and the arts; and

WHEREAS, the presence and contributions of Black Citizens 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 individuals, while acknowledging the injustices that remain; and

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

WHEREAS, while 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 2024 as

Black History Month

in the City of Coos Bay and Celebrate Black History Month by embracing the rich African American influence on the arts. Join us in honoring this cultural legacy by enjoying and supporting the work of African American artists through various forms of artistic expression.



In witness thereof, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Coos Bay to be affixed on this 6th day of February 2024.



Joe Benetti, Mayor