

CITY OF KINGSTON PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, JUNETEENTH is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on June 19th, 1865 Union General Gordon Granger delivered news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved were free. More than One Hundred Fifty years later, Juneteenth National Freedom Day continues to be the most recognized African American holiday in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a day for all justice-minded people to celebrate the end of slavery, a dark period in our history and the word “Juneteenth” holds special meaning to African Americans who wanted to create a new and unforgettable word—combining June and Nineteenth—the first day of emancipation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kingston wants to amplify the message that Black Lives Matter, and the City is in full support of the Black Lives Matter movement for racial equality and justice; and

WHEREAS, as part of this year’s Juneteenth celebration the city of Kingston would like to honor the memory of Reverend Paul Worthington and Esther Taylor Evans who worked tirelessly to support our community; and


WHEREAS, Harambee, Seasoned Gives, and My Kingston Kids are jointly hosting the eighth annual celebration of the First Juneteenth Celebration in Kingston.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steven T. Noble, Mayor of the City of Kingston, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2020 as JUNETEENTH NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY in the City of Kingston and urge all residents to recognize that Juneteenth is a day for people of all races, creeds, and backgrounds to celebrate and come together in unity and reconciliation.

In witness whereof, I hereby set and cause to be affixed the Corporate Seal of the City of Kingston.

June 19, 2020




Steven T. Noble
Mayor