PROCLAMATION

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH 2023

WHEREAS, President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation took effect on January 1, 1863, stating, in part, that "all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free"; and

WHEREAS, it was not until June 19, 1865 that the enslaved people of Galveston, Texas were at last informed that "in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free"; and

WHEREAS, this day and event, recognized as Juneteenth, marks the effective end of chattel slavery in the United States, further codified with the ratification of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States on December 6th of that year; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth National Independence Day became a Federal holiday on June 17, 2021, a legal state holiday in Washington on July 25, 2021, and an official holiday in the City of Snohomish on April 19, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, like Independence Day on the 4th of July, is a celebration of freedom that is important to our community and Country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Redmon, Mayor of the City of Snohomish, with and on behalf of the Snohomish City Council, do hereby recognize

JUNETEENTH 2023

and encourage members of our community to learn more about its importance in the story of our Country. According to the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture:
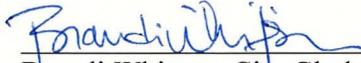
"The significance of Juneteenth is part of a continuum of moments where African Americans have advocated for their full participation in American citizenship and commanded the maintenance of the memory of our history and culture in the face of resistance and racism."

SIGNED by the Mayor of Snohomish this 6th day of June, 2023.

Linda Redmon
Linda Redmon Mayor

ATTEST:

Brandi Whitson
Brandi Whitson, City Clerk