

CITY OF LAKEWOOD



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the end of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, historically Juneteenth was widely celebrated in the African American community as Emancipation Day, commemorating the day in 1865 when a Union Army general arrived in Galveston, Texas to share the news that the Civil War had ended and to announce the enslaved African Americans living there were free; and

WHEREAS, in recent years awareness of the significance of this date for our nation's African American and Black communities has become more widespread, resulting in Juneteenth becoming a recognized state and federal holiday; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth reminds us of the horrors of our country's past, commemorates African American freedom, acknowledges the resilience and determination of African Americans who have faced injustices in our society, and pays homage to those who paved the road to freedom in America; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a day to recognize and honor the contributions of African Americans in our city, state and country; and

WHEREAS, now is a time to reflect on the progress that must continue to ensure that all have equal access and opportunity to participate fully in our society; and

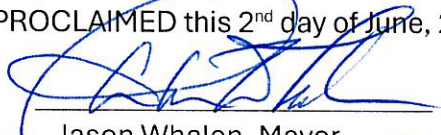
WHEREAS, Juneteenth is marked with celebrations, picnics, and family gatherings, and is a time for reflection and rejoicing, assessment, self-improvement and planning; and

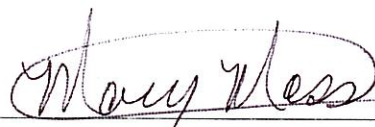
WHEREAS, people of all races, nationalities and religions are joining hands to acknowledge a period in our history that shaped and continues to influence our society today.

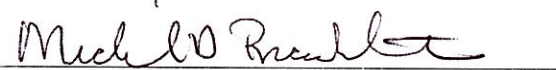
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lakewood City Council does hereby acknowledge June 19, 2025 as


JUNETEENTH NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY

and urges all residents to come together to celebrate community and fellowship by attending the Juneteenth Celebration hosted by St. Joseph-St. John Episcopal Church on Saturday, June 14, 2025 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Lakewood Playhouse. PROCLAIMED this 2nd day of June, 2025.

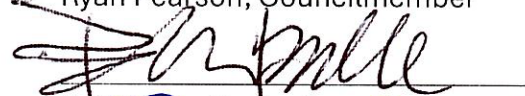

Jason Whalen, Mayor


Mary Moss, Deputy Mayor


Michael D. Brandstetter, Councilmember


J. Trestin Lauricella, Councilmember


Ryan Pearson, Councilmember


Patti Belle, Councilmember


Paul Bocchi, Councilmember