

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Martin Luther King, Jr. was a pivotal figure in the Civil Rights movement and received several hundred awards for his leadership in this movement; and

**WHEREAS**, On December 5, 1955, after civil rights activist Rosa Parks refused to comply with Montgomery's segregation policy on buses, African-American residents launched a bus boycott and elected Martin Luther King, Jr. as president of the newly-formed Montgomery Improvement Association; and

**WHEREAS**, Martin Luther King, Jr. was an inspirational leader with the Montgomery, Alabama Civil Rights Movements, which was one of the first great battles won in the South; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. King was a vigilant advocate of non-violence and direct action as methods of social change. He conducted workshops in non-violent techniques. In 1963, Dr. King led the Birmingham, Alabama movement where local police officials were known for their violent opposition to integration, which led to the arrests of more than 3,300 African Americans, including Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

**WHEREAS**, The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed when President Johnson responded to the Birmingham protests and submitted broad civil rights legislation to Congress. In December of 1964, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work with the Civil Rights Movement.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Randy Sparacino, Mayor of the City of Medford, do hereby proclaim Monday, January 18, 2021 as

## **DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**

and encourage all citizens of Medford to observe this day as a day to remember, celebrate, and act and to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for devoting his life to the Civil Rights Movement and to share in his dream of freedom for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I  
hereunto set my hand this  
7<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021.



Randy Sparacino  
Mayor of Medford