

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth is a holiday marking the end of slavery in the United States;  
and

**WHEREAS**, when Union Army General Gordon Granger landed at the Texas Port City of Galveston in 1865 as the Civil War drew to a close, one of his first actions was to read General Order #3, which stated that all slaves are free and that former masters and slaves have absolute equality of personal and property rights; and

**WHEREAS**, following his statement, June 19<sup>th</sup> (Juneteenth) became the emancipation date of those long suffering for freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, since then, as the oldest known celebration commemorating the end of slavery in America, this tradition has remained strong well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century to recognize the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of slavery and to honor the strength, endurance and faith of African American ancestors; and

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative that citizens join together to acknowledge a time in our history that carried on the nation's ideals of equality and democracy and celebrate the joys of liberty and justice for every citizen.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Randy Sparacino, Mayor of Medford, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2021 as

## JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION DAY

in the City of Medford and urge all citizens to join us in this commemoration.

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



Randy Sparacino  
Mayor of Medford

