

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 19th (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 21st 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, 2023 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
15th day of June 2023.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Randy Sparacino", is written over a horizontal line.

Randy Sparacino
Mayor