



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 24-006

**RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2024 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH
IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY**

WHEREAS, in 1926, Black historian, author, journalist and founder of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Carter G. Woodson, established “Negro History Week” with the goal of acknowledging and accurately representing Black history in schools; and

WHEREAS, Black United Students and Black educators at Kent State University used the foundation laid by Woodson to found Black History Month on February 1, 1970. Six years later the month was officially recognized by the federal government during the nation’s bicentennial; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 theme of Black History Month is, “African Americans and the Arts”; and

WHEREAS, African American art is infused with African, Caribbean and the Black American lived experiences and various forms of cultural expression, including literature, film, music, culinary, visual, and performing arts; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month is a time to recognize and honor the many individuals, events, and momentous contributions of Black people in our community, nation, and world; and

WHEREAS, Black Americans continue to experience inequality and inequity as a result of institutional racism. Snohomish County acknowledges racism is systemic, has historically hurt and continues to fracture the health and well-being of Black Americans through generations; and

WHEREAS, more than 25,000 Black and African American people live and work in Snohomish County and make significant contributions to our economy, arts and culture, science, education, and more;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council does hereby recognize February 2024 as Black History Month in Snohomish County. All Snohomish County residents and visitors are encouraged to honor the rich history, experiences, and many achievements of Black and African Americans. We recognize that Black Lives Matter and commit to ongoing funding of programs that ensure safety and equity across our community. We will also include the voices of local Black organizations and residents in decision-making to build thriving, sustainable, and inclusive communities.

APPROVED this 31st day of January 2024.

Jared Mead
Council Chair

Nate Nehring
Council Vice-Chair

Sam Low
Councilmember

Megan Dunn
Councilmember

ATTEST:

Elena Lao, CMC
Deputy Clerk of the Council