



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 26-033

**RECOGNIZING JUNE 19, 2026, AS JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY
IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates the day on June 19, 1865, when enslaved people in Texas learned that slavery was abolished and they were free, more than two years after their freedom had been secured by the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, the year following the 1865 emancipation, newly freed people in Texas organized the first celebration of “Jubilee Day” in celebration of the arrival of the news of their freedom. In 1979, Texas became the first state to make Juneteenth an official holiday, and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is our shared opportunity to celebrate the power and resilience of Black and African American people, who have endured generations of oppression and transformed their pain into common resolve that has expanded democracy, justice, dignity, and opportunity to millions of Americans; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is also a reminder that the toxic ideology of racism has not yet been defeated, Black and African American people in our community and nation continue to face discrimination and disproportionate outcomes in housing, education, health, and criminal justice involvement; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a day for all Snohomish County residents to reflect on the horrors of slavery, to acknowledge the evils of hate, racism, discrimination, and injustice; and to commit to being unwavering allies to Black and African American people living and working here; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County values the contributions Black and African American people have made to our nation and local community through sharing their history, heritage, culture, and talents; and


WHEREAS, there are several events happening around the County, including a Juneteenth Flag Raising event hosted by the County’s Office of Social Justice featuring community speakers, which will take place on Thursday, June 18th from 3-4PM at the flag plaza adjacent to the Carnegie Building; and

WHEREAS, NAACP Snohomish County along with Snohomish County are cohosting a Juneteenth celebration on Saturday, June 20, 2026, from 11AM—3PM at Martha Lake County Park in Lynwood; and

WHEREAS, this celebration will be a day dedicated to honoring freedom, culture, community, and Black excellence, creating space for education, joy, reflection, and unity while commemorating the historical significance of Juneteenth with entertainment, line dancing, community organization vendors, food, and meaningful connection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council does hereby recognize June 19, 2026, as Juneteenth Independence Day in Snohomish County and encourages residents, visitors, and businesses to join Snohomish County Government in celebrating Juneteenth.

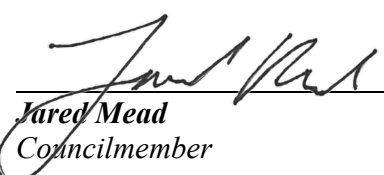
APPROVED this 17th day of June 2026.



Megan Dunn
Council Chair




Sam Low
Council Vice-Chair



Jared Mead
Councilmember



Strom Peterson
Councilmember

ATTEST: 

Elena Lao, CMC
Deputy Clerk of the Council