



**SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**Snohomish County, Washington**

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 25-027**

**RECOGNIZING JUNE 19, 2025, 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**, the City of Mountlake Terrace, in partnership with Sno-Isle Libraries, The Access Project, Change the Narrative, Project Girl Mentoring Program, Northwest WA Civic Circle, Community Transit, Mountlake Terrace Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Commission, and the Snohomish County Office of Social Justice, will host a Juneteenth celebration on Sunday, June 15, 2025, honoring both this historic milestone and the vital role of father figures on our community; and

**WHEREAS**, this celebration will bring together diverse members of our community in the spirit of unity, education, and commemoration, providing free meals and activities recognizing the importance of family bonds, community strength, and the ongoing journey toward equality and justice for all residents of Snohomish County; and

**WHEREAS**, Snohomish County will be hosting a Juneteenth flag raising event at the County Campus at 3PM on Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Snohomish County Council does hereby recognize June 19, 2025, as Juneteenth Independence Day in Snohomish County and encourages residents, visitors, and businesses to join Snohomish County Government in celebrating Juneteenth at one of the many community events being held in celebration this month.

**APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Nate Nehring**  
Council Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Megan Dunn**  
Council Vice-Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Sam Low**  
Councilmember

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jared Mead**  
Councilmember

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Strom Peterson**  
Councilmember

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Elena Lao, CMC  
Deputy Clerk of the Council