Black History Month

WHEREAS, through bravery, perseverance, faith, and resolve - often in the face of incredible prejudice and hardship - African Americans have enhanced and advanced every aspect of American life.

WHEREAS, their fight for equality, representation, and respect motivates us to continue working for a more promising, peaceful, and hopeful future for every American.

WHEREAS, during National Black History Month, we honor the extraordinary contributions made by African Americans throughout our history.

WHEREAS, this year marks the 150th anniversary of the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which states, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

WHEREAS, Our country and this City is strengthened and enriched by citizens of every race, religion, color, and creed, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Bothell rejects any discrimination through its values, policies, and practices; and

WHEREAS, the Bothell City Council has made diversity, equity, and inclusion a priority within its annual scorecard and supports the continued work of the City's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to raise awareness and promote an inclusive work environment and community free from discrimination.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Liam Olsen, Mayor of the City of Bothell, do hereby proclaim February 2020 as *"Black History Month"* in the City of Bothell. The City makes this proclamation to celebrate the African American community and as an affirmation of the City's commitment to protect and serve everyone who resides in, works in, or visits Bothell without discrimination and of its belief in the dignity, equality, and civil rights of all people.

Signed this 18th day of February, 2020.

Liam Olsen, Mayor