



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the United States of America was conceived on 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1776 with the Declaration of Independence, which proclaimed: “*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness*”; and

**WHEREAS**, our nation entered a period of darkness, wherein systemic racism, inequality, and inhumanity were born in the form of slavery; and

**WHEREAS**, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1863, providing that all persons held as slaves “*shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free*”; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1865, Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas to announce the end of the Civil War and to finally enforce the Emancipation Proclamation; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly nine decades after our Nation’s founding, and more than two years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, all enslaved people were finally released from servitude and recognized, for the first time, as free citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, from the year 1865 forward, black Americans across our nation came to celebrate Juneteenth as “Freedom Day” and “Emancipation Day”; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, President Joe Biden established June 19<sup>th</sup> as Juneteenth National Independence Day, a U.S. federal holiday commemorating the end of slavery in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, all Americans can carry Juneteenth forward as a tradition, to not only celebrate the end of slavery in America but also to recommit ourselves, as a daily endeavor, to our Nation’s founding ideals of freedom, equality, and justice for all Americans.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Jenny Willford, Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Northglenn, Colorado, hereby proclaim June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 as:

## JUNETEENTH

in the City of Northglenn and encourage all residents to honor and celebrate our nation’s ability to overcome the painful past of slavery, to heal, and to continue the pursuit of our founding ideals for all Americans.

Dated, at Northglenn, Colorado this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022.

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JENNY WILLFORD  
Mayor Pro Tem

