



in Recognition of
JUNETEENTH
June 19, 2025

WHEREAS, the City of Arcata recognizes **June 19—Juneteenth—as an important day in American history**, marking the date in 1865 when the last enslaved African Americans in Galveston, Texas were informed of their freedom—more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth stands as a symbol of freedom, resilience, and the ongoing journey toward justice and equality for Black Americans; and

WHEREAS, Black residents of Humboldt County have made and continue to make significant contributions to the cultural, educational, civic, and economic life of our region, often in the face of historical and ongoing barriers, including underrepresentation and experiences of racial bias; and

WHEREAS, acknowledging our shared history and the realities of past and present inequities is essential to building a more inclusive and thriving community for all; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arcata supports continued efforts to ensure equitable access to opportunity for Black residents, including the pursuit of strategies that improve access to education, economic development, housing, and land-based initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is an opportunity not only to reflect on the struggles for freedom and civil rights, but also to celebrate the strength, creativity, and leadership of Black communities throughout our region and nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the City Council of the City of Arcata hereby recognizes **June 19, 2025, as Juneteenth**, and encourages all residents to reflect on the meaning of this day, to learn from our collective history, and to support efforts that advance equity, inclusion, and opportunity for all—especially Black residents who have helped shape the fabric of our community.

Dated: June 18, 2025

Alex Stillman, Mayor