PROCLAMATION

West Linn, Oregon

WHEREAS, the City of West Linn unequivocally affirms that Black lives matter; and

WHEREAS, Black communities have made numerous valuable and long-lasting contributions in the history of Oregon's economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development; and

WHEREAS, the presence and contributions of Black communities continue to enhance the quality of the life in the City of West Linn; and

WHEREAS, Black communities have been the target of discrimination, exclusion, and violence based on identity, which conflicts with our core values as a community; and

WHEREAS, Black communities have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the compounding effects of systemic racism; and

WHEREAS, in September 2000, West Linn City Council pass a resolution declaring national undoing racism day to reaffirm our commitment to ensure equity and freedom for all people regardless of race, religion, sexual preference, or gender; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month calls our nation's attention to recognize and celebrate the essential contributions and resilience of Black communities while acknowledging the injustices that remain; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month is a time where all Americans are encouraged to reflect on our collective history of slavery and oppression of Black communities and recommit to prioritizing racial equity, inclusion, and respect for human dignity in all that we do; and

WHEREAS, though we celebrate Black History Month in February, we affirm that Black history is American history and recognize it as an ever-present part of our collective experience that we must pass on and learn from.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST LINN, that February 2022 is

Black History Month

In the City of West Linn.

DATED THIS 7TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2022

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MAYOR JULES WALTERS

ATTEST:

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KATHY MOLLUSKY, CITY RECORDER