

City of Kenmore, Washington

Proclamation

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, setting in motion the end of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Civil War ended with the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865; and

WHEREAS, this news reached Texas when Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston Bay with Union troops. It was on June 19, 1865, that he announced: "The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free"; and

WHEREAS, celebration of the end of slavery, which became known as Juneteenth, is the oldest known public celebration of the end of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and celebrates the successes gained through education and greater opportunity; and

WHEREAS, on a larger scale, celebration of Juneteenth reminds each of us of the precious promises of freedom, equality, and opportunity which are at the core of the American Dream; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, David Baker, Mayor of the City of Kenmore, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim June 19 as a day to celebrate Juneteenth 2020, in the City of Kenmore.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, signed this June 8, 2020.



Signed: _____
David Baker, Mayor

Attested: _____
Kelly M. Chelin, City Clerk