



City of Washington, Illinois Proclamation

“Celebrate Juneteenth”

Whereas, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring the slaves in the Confederate territory free, therefore paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished slavery; and

Whereas, news of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed until June 19, 1865, in reaching authorities and African-Americans in the South and Southwestern United States; and

Whereas, June 19th holds special meaning to African-Americans, and is celebrated as "JUNETEENTH", and has been observed and celebrated for over 150 years; and

Whereas, Juneteenth is the oldest known holiday to celebrate the end of slavery in the United States; and

Whereas, the City of Washington will observe Sunday, June 19, 2022 as part of our commitment to anti-racism, racial and social justice, encouraging a day of reflection, recognition and acknowledgement of healing. We recognize the continued need to battle racism and to continue our efforts to build a more peaceful and cohesive community.

Now, Therefore, I, Gary W. Manier, Mayor of the City of Washington, Illinois, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2022 as:

Juneteenth Community Celebration Day

PROCLAIMED this 6th day of June, 2022

Gary W. Manier, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Valeri L Brod, City Clerk