



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

- Whereas:** During Black History Month, we recognize and celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by Black people to our nation's social, artistic, cultural, political and economic advancement; and
- Whereas:** In 1976, Black History Month was formally adopted to honor and affirm the importance of Black history throughout the American experience; and
- Whereas:** The observance of Black History Month calls our attention to the continued need to battle racism and build a more just society that lives up to our democratic ideals; and
- Whereas:** The events of this past year remind us that we have far to go to end racial injustice and inequity in our nation and local communities; and
- Whereas:** The City of Bellevue is committed to ensuring access, equity, inclusion and opportunity for all; and
- Whereas:** As part of this commitment, the City Council undertook a pledge in June 2020 to take a fresh look at use of force policies in policing, to ensure Black, Indigenous and people of color are safe, respected and served equitably; and
- Whereas:** We welcome our community's participation in this crucial process to realize Bellevue's mission to "welcome the world," celebrate Black history as an important part of American history, and achieve justice and equity for all members of our community; and
- Whereas:** We strive to raise awareness of the history and contributions of communities of color, most recently with a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Summit, a Black History Month panel and a virtual adaptation of the American History Traveling Museum: The Unspoken Truths, available until March 31, 2021, through the city's website;
- Now, therefore, I,** Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim the **month of February 2021** as:

Black History Month

and urge all residents to join us as we reflect on our shared history; commemorate and reaffirm the contributions of Black people to our communities, our country, and to the world; and continue efforts to battle racism and to build a society that is more just, peaceful and prosperous for all.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue