



Board of County Commissioners

Boulder County's 2024 Black History Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, during National Black History Month, we celebrate the legacy of Black Americans whose power to lead, to overcome, and to expand the meaning and practice of democracy has helped the United States become a more fair and just society while acknowledging that there is still much work to be done; and

WHEREAS, Black Americans' struggles for freedom, equal treatment, and the right to vote; for equal opportunities in education, housing, and the workplace; for economic opportunity, equal justice, and political representation; and so much more have reformed our democracy far beyond its founding; and

WHEREAS, Black Americans have made a way not only for themselves, but also have helped build a highway for millions of women, immigrants, other historically marginalized communities, and all residents to more fully experience the benefits of our society; and

WHEREAS, Boulder County continues to support the work of the NAACP Boulder County Branch and their 2024 Black History Month Celebration events with guest speaker Anthony Ray Hinton and musician Danielle Ponder, who embody the spirit of perseverance and hope; and

WHEREAS, Boulder County supported the 19th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulder County Community Celebrations 2024 themed, Fanning The Flames Of The Dream, presented by the NAACP Boulder Branch, Second Baptist Church, Longmont Multicultural Action Committee, Boulder JCC, and the Museum of Boulder; and

WHEREAS, Boulder County welcomes the Colorado General Assembly's unanimous decision to designate a portion of U.S. 36 in Boulder as the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Highway and expresses thanks to Representative Junie Joseph for her leadership in this effort as a prime sponsor of the assembly's Designate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Highway Resolution; and

WHEREAS, Boulder County also welcomes the Museum of Boulder's efforts to work collaboratively to amplify Black perspectives and resource Black historians to preserve and share Colorado's rich and complex Black history through their year-long exhibition, Proclaiming Colorado's Black History; and

WHEREAS, Boulder County supports the creation and adoption of fully inclusive, anti-racist, and multicultural policies at a state and local level and believes it is the moral responsibility of the county and its employees to interrupt institutional racism which manifests through racist policy, practices, and behaviors both internal and external to the Boulder County organization.

Claire Levy *County Commissioner* **Marta Loachamin** *County Commissioner* **Ashley Stolzmann** *County Commissioner*

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Now therefore, the Boulder County Board of County Commissioners do hereby proclaim that the month of February 2024 is recognized as Black History Month in Boulder County and urges all residents to actively raise their own awareness of Black History, encourages everyone to recognize the struggles, achievements, and contributions of Black Americans through local Black History Month events, and to engage in action to create a fully-inclusive, anti-racist Boulder County.

ADOPTED this 30th day of January 2024

Commissioner Claire Levy Commissioner Marta Loachamin Commissioner Ashley Stolzmann