



CITY OF EASTHAMPTON
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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**Resolution of the City Council of Easthampton to recognize
Juneteenth as a city holiday**

WHEREAS, Juneteenth celebrates the end of slavery in the United States, and is also known as the emancipation Day, Juneteenth Independence Day, and Black Independence Day; and,

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln decreed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. The proclamation declared “that all persons held as slaves” “are, and henceforward shall be free; and

WHEREAS, news of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was withheld in parts of the United States for two and one half years, and this freedom was not made known to many enslaved African Americans.

WHEREAS, because freedom from slavery in the United States came to enslaved black people in different parts of the United States at different times, emancipation celebrations are often called by different names and take place on different dates. Juneteenth recognizes that on June 19, 1865, the last enslaved people in Galveston, Texas were informed that slavery had been abolished

WHEREAS, organizations across the world in a number of countries also recognize June 19 as the end of slavery and to celebrate the culture and achievements of African Americans globally; and,

WHEREAS, racial injustice and violence toward African-American citizens have resulted in national protests, demonstrations, and a unification of voices crying for a need for judicial racial reform; and,

WHEREAS, in July of 2020, Juneteenth was officially recognized as a holiday in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and in June of 2021 Juneteenth was officially recognized as a federal holiday; now,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of Easthampton, Massachusetts, on this 2nd day of February, 2022, that Juneteenth is hereby officially recognized as a holiday in the city of Easthampton; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the day shall be spent in recognition of the social and cultural significance of the abolition of slavery in the United States, and punctuated by the gravity of historical and ongoing racial injustice in our country.

<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Homar Gomez</i> BE37EEF991914CC</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Salem Derby</i> 67FEEDD690E4D45A</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Brad Riley</i> B00196704FE445B...</p>
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>John A. Root</i> 052BC725CC35440...</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>JP Kwicinski</i> BD7D274FFE394E0...</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Koni Denham</i> 0EEA89BF608B447...</p>
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Amasey Potuschna</i> 2461B28DE9D84F2...</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Owen Baret</i> D178C65B1CD3F45F...</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>J. Locke</i> 041F447A0F1041C...</p>

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