

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, June 19th is declared as Juneteenth, a nationally recognized day which celebrates the rich culture, legacy and heritage of African American people; and

WHEREAS, 2024 marks the 159th year of Juneteenth with Juneteenth being the oldest known celebration commemorating the abolition of slavery in the United States, dating back to June 19, 1865 when Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended, freeing the enslaved; and

WHEREAS, this was two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation which became official on January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress—between 1865 and 1870—would pass key amendments to the U.S. Constitution, that upon ratification by each state, would profoundly change the legal status of those once enslaved. The Thirteenth Amendment abolished bonded servitude. The Fourteenth Amendment conferred citizenship upon on those once enslaved. Finally, the Fifteenth Amendment liberated men once held in bondage; and

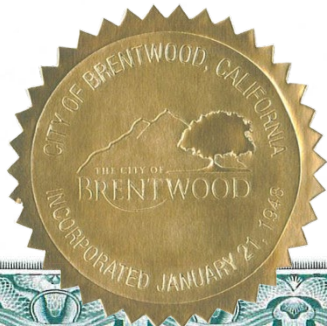
WHEREAS, today, Juneteenth celebrates African American people's freedom and achievement, while encouraging continuous self-development and respect for all cultures, as it takes on a more national, symbolic and even global perspective, to ensure the events of 1865 are not forgotten.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the City Council of the City of Brentwood does hereby recognize June 19th, 2024 as

JUNETEENTH

and calls upon Brentwood residents to become more aware of the significance of this celebration in African American history and in the heritage of our City and nation.

Dated this 11th of June 2024




Joel R. Bryant, Mayor