

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865 — months after the Civil War ended and more than 2 years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation freeing enslaved people — Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to free 250,000 people still held in bondage. The arrival of Major General Gordon Granger and his troops signaled that the Federal Government would not relent until the last enslaved people in America were free; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day, is the oldest known celebration commemorating the end of enslavement in America; and

WHEREAS, we honor the generations of activists who have advanced the need for our Nation to recognize Juneteenth to reconcile our past as we build a new American future together; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland Park recognizes this celebration by providing a paid legal holiday for employees on Friday, June 19, 2026; and

WHEREAS, on this Juneteenth Day of Observance, we commemorate America's dedication to the cause of freedom, embracing this day where we take one step closer together to ensure the promise of a free and just society is guaranteed for all.

NOW THEREFORE, the City Commission of the City of Oakland Park, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in it by the Charter, hereby authorizes Mayor Steven R. Arnst to proclaim June 19, 2026, as

JUNETEENTH

in the City of Oakland Park, and we encourage all citizens, young and old, to celebrate Juneteenth and recommit to working together to eradicate systemic racism and inequity in our society.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Oakland Park, Florida, to be affixed this 17th day of June 2026.

BY: _____
STEVEN R. ARNST, MAYOR

ATTEST _____
RENEE M. SHROUT, CMC, CITY CLERK