

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS each year, since 1986, the United States observes Black History Month, a month-long celebration every February to acknowledge the struggles and accomplishments of Black and African Americans for racial justice that stirred the very conscience of our nation, and

WHEREAS Black Americans for generations have courageously led the pursuit of justice and equality, from Harriet Tubman to Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. to bell hooks and beyond, and

WHEREAS Black Americans have made significant contributions and sacrifices to our nation's economic, educational, political, artistic, literary, scientific, and technological advancements, despite historical and current injustices, and

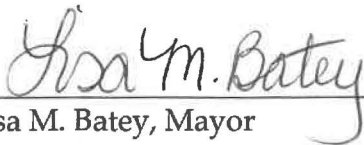
WHEREAS in Milwaukie, we celebrate the contributions of Black Americans who have been active in our community, including Hagos Tekle and Selam Tkabo, owners of The Litte Blue Store, entrepreneurial boxing promoter George Moore, and Milwaukie Pastry Kitchen proprietors Hurtis and Dorothy Hadley, among others, and

WHEREAS our nation struggles to overcome the systemic racism that results in persistent inequality, which underscores the importance of systemic change and dialogue to promote understanding, break down barriers, and build community, and

WHEREAS as individuals, we must learn more about the history of Black Americans generally, and in Oregon in particular, and work to build a Milwaukie where every person has equitable access to educational and employment opportunities, and housing.

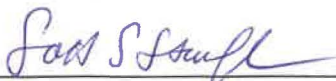
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lisa Batey, Mayor of the City of Milwaukie, a municipal corporation in the County of Clackamas, in the State of Oregon, and with the full support and sponsorship of the City Council do hereby proclaim **February 2026** to be **CELEBRATING BLACK EXCELLENCE MONTH** in Milwaukie and recommend its observance with appropriate programs and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, and with the consent of the City Council of the City of Milwaukie, I have hereunto set my hand on this 17th day of **February 2026**.



Lisa M. Batey, Mayor

ATTEST:



Scott S. Stauffer, City Recorder

