

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring all slaves in the Confederate territory free from slavery and its practices, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, information about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was prohibited by influential Confederate persons for two and one half years, until June 19, 1865, when the President's order was enforced by the actions of Union General Gordon Granger on behalf of enslaved African-Americans in the South & Southwestern United States; and

WHEREAS, Emancipation Day observations are held on different days in different states in the South, Southwest, and in other areas of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, June 19th has a special meaning to African-Americans, and is called "JUNETEENTH" combining the words 'June' and 'Nineteenth', and has been celebrated by the African-American community for 156 years; and

WHEREAS, the annual Juneteenth celebration & parade will take place in Dothan the weekend of June 19th both now and hereafter; therefore,

IN THE SPIRIT OF UNITY, I, Mark Saliba, Mayor of the City of Dothan, Alabama, do hereby declare June 19th as

"JUNETEENTH"

in the City of Dothan, Alabama, **AND** urge all citizens to recognize the validity and significance of this celebration in African-American History throughout our fair City.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dothan to be affixed this 1st day of June, 2021.

SEAL



Mark Saliba
Mayor

Attest:

Wendy Shiver
City Clerk