



AGENDA SUMMARY REPORT

SUBJECT: Proclamation of the Ukiah City Council Recognizing February as Black History Month.

DEPARTMENT: City Manager / Admin

PREPARED BY: Maria Ceja, Administrative Analyst

PRESENTER: Mayor Sher or Councilmember

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Black History Month Proclamation

Summary: The Ukiah City Council will issue a proclamation recognizing February 2026 as Black History Month in the City of Ukiah. This proclamation acknowledges the central role of African, Caribbean, and Black Americans in shaping our nation's history, culture, and society. Black History Month provides an opportunity to honor the resilience, achievements, and contributions of these communities while inviting the Ukiah community to participate in celebrating this important observance.

Background: Black History Month traces its origins to 1926 when Dr. Carter G. Woodson, a prominent historian and scholar, launched Negro History Week. It was designed to coincide with Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass' celebratory birthdays and eventually led to a national observance that expanded to a month-long commemoration in 1976.

Discussion: In issuing this Black History Month proclamation (Attachment 1), the City of Ukiah underscores its commitment to honoring the diverse histories and cultures that enrich our community. The Black History Month 2026 theme, "**A Century of Black History Commemorations,**" marks the 100-year anniversary of the first observance of what began as Negro History week in 1926, and provides an opportunity to reflect on how the commemoration of Black history has shaped identity and strengthened the broader understanding of United States history. The City also encourages residents to participate in local and national efforts to celebrate Black History Month, recognizing the value of diversity, equity, and inclusion in fostering a stronger community.

Recommended Action: Issue a Proclamation of the Ukiah City Council recognizing February as Black History Month.

BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUIRED: N/A

CURRENT BUDGET AMOUNT: N/A

PROPOSED BUDGET AMOUNT: N/A

FINANCING SOURCE: N/A

REVENUE: N/A **GRANT:** N/A

PREVIOUS CONTRACT/PURCHASE ORDER NO.: N/A

COORDINATED WITH: Diversity and Equity Committee

STRATEGIC PLAN (SP): SP 5C - Create, sustain, and advance a diverse and inclusive workplace and workforce that reflects, values, and celebrates the diverse community we serve.

CLIMATE INITIATIVES (CI): N/A

GENERAL PLAN ELEMENTS (GP): N/A

Approved: 
Sage Sangiacomo, City Manager

PROCLAMATION

City of Ukiah



Recognizing

February 2026 as “Black History Month” in the City of Ukiah

Whereas, *Black History Month* is observed each February as a national annual celebration recognizing the history, achievements and contributions by African Americans; and

Whereas, *Black History Month* honors the central role of African Americans in shaping the social, cultural, economic, and political foundations of the United States, often in the face of systemic barriers and injustice; and

Whereas, *Black History Month* can be traced back to 1926. Designed to coincide with Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass' celebratory birthdays and eventually led to a national observance that expanded to a month-long commemoration in 1976; and

Whereas, the 2026 *Black History Month* theme, “*A Century of Black History Commemorations*,” marks the 100-year anniversary of the first observance of what began as Negro History week in 1926, and provides an opportunity to reflect on how the commemoration of Black history has shaped identity and strengthened the broader understanding of United States history; and

Whereas, the observance provides an opportunity for communities to reflect on the enduring impact of African American leadership, creativity, labor, and advocacy, and to reaffirm a shared commitment to equity, inclusion and justice. African Americans continue to chart new paths toward economic stability, personal growth, and racial uplift. From enslaved workers in the 19th century to agricultural, industrial, and professional workers in the 20th and 21st centuries, Black men and women have always been vital to transforming and tooling America; and

Whereas, the City of Ukiah recognizes that African Americans have contributed to the strength and vitality of local, regional, and national communities, and that these contributions continue to enrich civic life today; and

Whereas, residents are encouraged to participate in activities and educational opportunities that celebrate Black history and culture.

Therefore be it resolved, that the City Council of the City of Ukiah, hereby proclaims February 2026, as

Black History Month in the City of Ukiah

*Signed and sealed, this 18th day of February in the year
Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.*

Susan Sher, Mayor