



A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN NEWBERG

WHEREAS, since the Bicentennial year of 1976, Americans of all walks of life have come together during February to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor through our history; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the importance of learning not only about the history of our country, but also about the history of Oregon, knowing that Oregon's Black Exclusion Laws prohibited Black individuals from being in the state, owning property, and making contracts until it was repealed in 1926, thereby creating even more disparity within our communities; and

WHEREAS, while the observance of Black History Month calls to our Nation's attention the continued need to battle racism and to build a society that lives up to its democratic ideals, this year's celebrations and recognition of Black History Month remind us that there can be no peace without justice; and

WHEREAS, this year's Black History Month comes in the wake of a summer marked by historical protests for a more equitable society, calls for police reform, and recognition of how history and privilege have impacted us all; and

WHEREAS, this Black History Month we are reminded it is not enough to not be racist, but rather, we must work to be anti-racist; and

WHEREAS, the City of Newberg is proud to honor the history, contributions, and achievements of Black members of our community, throughout our State, and Nation.

NOW THEREFORE, in recognition of Black individuals, past and present, in our community, the Mayor and City Council of Newberg, do hereby proclaim **February 2021 as Black History Month**, and encourage all residents to celebrate the diverse heritage and culture, learn about the contributions of Black Oregonians and Americans, and continue the efforts to create a world that is more just, peaceful, and prosperous for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the City of Newberg to be affixed on this 1st day of February 2021

Rick Rogers, Mayor