

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

**PROCLAMATION NO. 2022-012**

Proclaiming February 2022 as Black History and Future Month in Multnomah County, Oregon.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:**

a. Black History Month is observed every February throughout the United States to celebrate and recognize the vital role and contributions of Black and African Americans in our history and culture. Black History Month was first celebrated in 1976.

b. Beginning in 2016, following engagement with community members and leaders, the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners has recognized February as Black History and Black Future Month. By acknowledging the importance of the future state, Multnomah County seeks to not only honor Black history in America, but also to recognize that racial injustices persist for Black communities in Multnomah County and across the country, and to honor the people and organizations that are working to create a better and more just future for Black and African American communities.

c. In 2022, Multnomah County recognizes the importance of celebrating Black health and healing. That healing can come in many different forms - including at the ballot box, the courtroom and the church; through cultural traditions, entrepreneurship and community connection; in art, history, music, prose and poetry; through equitable and responsive healthcare and true self-determination.

d. Multnomah County acknowledges and rejects the long history of institutional and structural racism toward African Americans and in the United States and this observance of Black History and Future Month calls our attention to the continued need to confront racism and build a society that lives up to its democratic values.

e. Multnomah County recognizes that racial and ethnic diversity enriches our community.

f. Multnomah County recognizes and endeavors to dismantle the systemic barriers set up to hinder Black and African Americans people's ability to achieve equity, opportunity, and social mobility. Multnomah County further recognizes the resulting and immense economic impacts that racism and these systemic barriers have had for our Black and African American community members.

g. Multnomah County honors the rich heritage, extraordinary legacies, and ongoing accomplishments of Black and African Americans, including successful entrepreneurial endeavors, thriving local businesses, and cultural contributions.

h. Multnomah County honors and celebrates our Black and African American employees working towards eliminating disparities in their communities and creating a better future for all community members.

i. Multnomah County honors the workforce equity contributions of Employees of Color (EOC), Managers of Color (MOC) and Black and African American employees that ensure safety, trust and belonging for all in our community.

j. Multnomah County joins the chorus of other local, state and national leaders who celebrate Black and African American excellence and lift up the importance and power of Black and African American health, healing, justice and hope. We celebrate and recognize Black and African American communities not only this month, but 365 days a year.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaim:**

February 2022 as Black History Month and Black History and Future Month in Multnomah County, Oregon, in recognition and celebration of the contributions of Black and African Americans to our community.

**ADOPTED this 24th day of February, 2022.**




**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

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Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:  
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By   
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Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

**SUBMITTED BY:** Chair Deborah Kafoury