ARAPAHOE COUNTY Proclamation +

A PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING FEBRUARY 2025 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, Black History Month celebrates the contributions that African Americans have made to American history in their struggles for freedom and equality and deepens our understanding of our Nation's history; and

WHEREAS, in 1926, Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of African American Life sought to highlight the contributions and accomplishments made to the history of our country that for years had been omitted, promoting the study of Black history as a discipline, and celebrating the accomplishments of African Americans; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, President Gerald Ford decreed Black History Month a national observance stating, "We can seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history;" and

WHEREAS, during the month of February, our Nation takes pause to reflect on the injustices and struggles fought and overcome by African Americans throughout our Nation's history and pay tribute to the battles they have fought in the name of equality; and

WHEREAS, in Arapahoe County we value inclusivity, initiating a deeper evaluation of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion within our County to help us better see our connectedness and work toward creating equal opportunities for all 72,000 plus African Americans in Arapahoe County; and

WHEREAS, Arapahoe County engages with our community to understand cultural perspectives, striving to ensure a welcoming, safe, and respectful environment that reflects the diversity of our County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim February 2025 as Black History Month.

Cane Warren - Gylly

Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully

Commissioner Jeff Baker Chair Pro Tem

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Commissioner Jessica Campbell

Commissioner Leslie Summey Chair of the Board

Commissioner Rhonda Fields