

Whereas

Whereas, Juneteenth is widely recognized as the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the abolition of slavery in the United States; and

Whereas, President Lincoln issued the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation, which proclaimed that “all persons held as slaves... are, and henceforward shall be free”; and

Whereas, on June 19th, 1865, the last 250,000 Confederate slaves were freed in Galveston, Texas; and

Whereas, in 1945, Portlander Clara Peoples first began celebrating Juneteenth at the Vanport Kaiser shipyard to teach her coworkers about the history and achievements of the African American diaspora; and

Whereas, in 1972, Ora Lee Green and Clara Peoples organized the first Juneteenth parade in Portland, creating an annual, beloved tradition in North Portland; and

Whereas, the spirit of Juneteenth can be honored by spending time with family, friends and neighbors of every race, creed, color and age; it is a time for celebrations, including barbecues, music and the parade for our whole community to enjoy; and

Whereas, Desmond Tutu wisely said: “My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together”; and

Whereas, Juneteenth will be celebrated in Portland on Saturday, June 20th, 2015, coinciding with the 150th anniversary of the first Juneteenth celebration;

Now, Therefore, I, Charlie Hales, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the “City of Roses,” do hereby proclaim June 19, 2015 to be

Juneteenth

in Portland, and encourage all residents to observe this day.

Charlie Hales



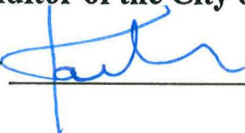
Proclaim June 19, 2015 to be Juneteenth in Portland (Proclamation introduced by Mayor Hales and Commissioner Novick)

JUN 18 2015

PLACED ON FILE

Filed JUN 12 2015

MARY HULL CABALLERO
Auditor of the City of Portland

By 

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Novick		
Hales		