



**Agenda Item B.2
PRESENTATION
Meeting Date: February 4, 2025**

**A Proclamation of the City Council of the City of Goleta, California,
Proclaiming February 2025 as Black History Month in the City of Goleta**



PROCLAMATION

A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOLETA, CALIFORNIA, PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 2025 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF GOLETA

WHEREAS, Black History Month is an annual observance in February dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the invaluable contributions and achievements of African Americans throughout the history of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the national theme for Black History Month 2025 is "African Americans and Labor," focusing on the profound ways that work—encompassing free and unfree, skilled and unskilled, vocational and voluntary labor—has intersected with the collective experiences of Black people; and

WHEREAS, Africans were brought to the Americas to be enslaved for their knowledge and to serve as a workforce, which was super-exploited by several European countries and then by the United States government. During enslavement, Black people labored for others, although some Black people were quasi-free and labored for themselves, but operated within a country that did not value Black life; and

WHEREAS, African Americans' history can be found in every part of the nation as they constructed and designed some of the most iconic examples of architectural heritage in the country, specifically in the South; and

WHEREAS, 2025 marks the 100-year anniversary of the creation of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Maids by labor organizer and civil rights activist A. Philip Randolph, which was the first Black union to receive a charter in the American Federation of Labor; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Barbara County, the African American community has significantly contributed to the region's cultural, economic, and social fabric, as documented in the African American/Black Historic Context Statement by Healing Justice Santa Barbara; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to acknowledge and confront the painful truths of our nation's history, including the injustices and systemic racism that have oppressed Black Americans, in order to foster healing, understanding, and progress.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, on this 4th day of February 2025, the City Council of the City of Goleta, California, does hereby officially recognize and honor Black History Month 2025, embracing the theme "African Americans and Labor" and honors the legacy of African Americans, acknowledges the integral role of Black labor in building our nation, and commits to a future of inclusivity, justice, and shared prosperity.

APPROVED this 4th day of February 2025




PAULA PEROTTE
MAYOR