



**Agenda Item A.3
PRESENTATION
Meeting Date: June 6, 2023**

**A Proclamation of the City Council of the City of Goleta, California,
Proclaiming the Day Of June 19, 2023 As “Juneteenth Day” in the City of
Goleta**



PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOLETA, CALIFORNIA, PROCLAIMING THE DAY OF JUNE 19, 2023 AS "JUNETEENTH DAY" IN THE CITY OF GOLETA

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring the enslaved African Americans in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, word about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed some two- and one-half years, to June 1865, in reaching African Americans in the South and Southwestern United States; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, federal authority was established in Texas when General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston. Granger proclaimed the end of slavery for 250,000 African Americans as well as the end of the Confederacy; and

WHEREAS, General Granger's order is now remembered throughout the United States as "Juneteenth," celebrating that declaration of emancipation; and

WHEREAS, on Thursday, June 17, 2021, President Biden signed into law S.475 the "Juneteenth National Independence Day Act," which designates Juneteenth National Independence Day as a Legal Public Holiday; and

WHEREAS, June 19th has a special meaning to African Americans, and is called "JUNETEETH" combining the words June and Nineteenth, and has been celebrated by the African American Community for over 150 years; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County will celebrate Juneteenth Sunday, June 18th through Monday, June 19th, in observance of the federal holiday. A Juneteenth community block party will be held on June 18th, with the 2023 community theme "Nourishing the People"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Goleta will close in observance of Juneteenth on Monday, June 19, 2023. The closure will mark the first time Juneteenth has been a recognized holiday in the City's history; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement. It is a day, a week, and in some areas a month marked with celebrations, guest speakers, and gatherings. It is a time for reflection and rejoicing. It is a time for assessment, self-improvement and for planning the future. In cities across the country, people of all races, nationalities and religions are joining hands to truthfully acknowledge a period in our history that shaped and continues to influence our society today. Sensitized to the conditions and experiences of others, only then can we make significant and lasting improvements in our society.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, on this 19th day of June 2023, the City Council of the City of Goleta does hereby proclaim June 19th as "JUNETEENTH" and calls on all residents to celebrate African American freedom and achievement, while also encouraging continuous self-development, respect for all cultures, and equal treatment under the laws of the United States of America.

APPROVED this 6th day of June 2023


PAULA PEROTTE
MAYOR

