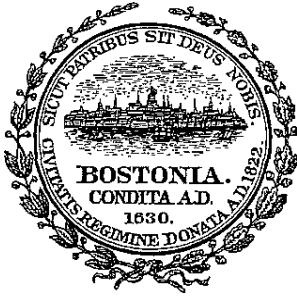


**OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BRIAN WORRELL, MINIARD CULPEPPER,
JULIA M. MEJIA, BREADON, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, LOUIJEUNE, MURPHY,
PEPÉN, AND WEBER**



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

WHEREAS, On June 19, 1865, Union Soldiers finally arrived in Galveston, Texas, to inform enslaved Black Americans that they were free in accordance with the Emancipation Proclamation; *and*

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the annual commemoration of this day in history, and exists as a reminder of the struggles for Black freedom in the United States, and a time to honor the rich cultures, histories, resilience, lives, and legacies of Black people and communities; *and*

WHEREAS, Flag banner programs are popular in municipalities throughout the country, and are known for helping communities honor military members, veterans, first responders, and other community heroes and loved ones for their service and sacrifices; *and*

WHEREAS, As a part of annual Juneteenth commemorations, Boston has an opportunity to establish a Juneteenth banner program, wherein flags are displayed on street poles, lampposts, parks, and other key locations throughout the city in the month of June to commemorate the sacrifices and endurance of Black people in the fight for liberation, and honor the empowerment of their leadership, contributions, and impact on Boston's communities and around the world; *and*

WHEREAS, An annual Juneteenth banner program would not only provide an outlet to help residents honor this important holiday and key leaders in the fight for Black liberation, but it could also help motivate more civic engagement around civil rights issues and the ongoing struggles for equity, autonomy, quality of life, and well-being for Boston's Black communities; *and*

WHEREAS, Such a program would provide opportunities to support Black businesses in creating and designing unique banners tied to different locations throughout the city; *and*

WHEREAS, Recognizing Juneteenth with an official banner program could be integral to increasing public awareness and education around the importance of Juneteenth and the realities of our collective histories, while also promoting and supporting Black businesses and present-day community leaders, and ultimately create

pathways to engage with and empower Black culture, experience, and discussion;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council recognize Juneteenth as an official holiday in the City of Boston, and that the City work to establish an annual Juneteenth banner program to recognize and honor the history of Black Americans, their lasting fight for liberation and equity, and their contributions to Boston and around the world.

Filed on: June 1, 2026