



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY AS HAITIAN HERITAGE MONTH AND MAY 18 AS HAITIAN FLAG DAY

**WHEREAS,** Haitian Heritage Month is celebrated annually across the globe during the month of May to recognize the rich history, culture, and contributions of Haitians to society, and to promote awareness and understanding of the Haitian-American community; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Haiti is the only country founded from a slave revolt, the first free Black republic in the world, the first independent state in the Caribbean and the second independent state in the Western Hemisphere after the United States; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The Haitian Flag, adopted on May 18, 1803, symbolizes the pride, resilience, and spirit of the Haitian people in their fight for freedom and independence, and is now celebrated annually on May 18th worldwide to commemorate Haitian heritage, culture, language, food and history; *and*

**WHEREAS,** While Haiti continues to navigate ongoing political and humanitarian challenges at home, many Haitian immigrants across the United States face legal uncertainty related to Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and concerns about safely returning. However, Haitians are finding unity and pride as Haiti's national team, known as Les Grenadiers, are set to take the global stage at the 2026 FIFA World Cup for the first time since 1974 right here in Boston on June 13 as the opening World Cup Boston game, serving as a source of hope for the Haitian diaspora; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Everyone throughout Boston is encouraged to participate in activities and events throughout the month that celebrate Haitian culture, including: Haitian flag raising ceremony (5/15), Haitian Flag Day Parade along Blue Hill Avenue through Mattapan and Dorchester (5/17), New England Revolution Soccer Haitian Cultural Community Night at Gillette Stadium (5/9) and Red Sox Haitian Cultural Night at Fenway Park (5/22); ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**RESOLVED:** That the City of Boston recognize May as Haitian Heritage Month, and encourage all residents to join in celebrating the rich culture and history of the Haitian community in Boston; ***AND, BE IT FURTHER***

**RESOLVED:** That the City of Boston hereby recognize May 18th as Haitian Flag Day and, in recognition, the Boston City Council orders the Property Management Department to raise the flag of the Republic of Haiti on the third flagpole on City Hall Plaza on May 15th, 2026 in place of the City of Boston flag.