

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, BREADON, COLETTA, DURKAN,  
FERNANDES ANDERSON, FLYNN, FITZGERALD, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA,  
WEBER, AND WORRELL



## 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,** Haitian Americans have also made significant contributions to the fields of medicine, science, education, and business, among others, and have enriched the fabric of American society with their culture and traditions; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Haiti has experienced a significant increase in violence and insecurity in recent years, with gangs currently controlling 80 of Haiti's capital. There are record levels of violence, hunger, and abuses as Haiti's political and humanitarian crisis persists, while the Haitian diaspora continues to play an active role in promoting Haitian-based solutions and to work with Haitian civil society to advocate for stability, security, and elections; *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,** We encourage everyone throughout Boston to participate in activities and events throughout the month that celebrate Haitian culture, including: Haitian flag raising (5/17), Haitian Flag Day Parade along Blue Hill Avenue through Mattapan and Dorchester (5/19), and Red Sox Haitian Cultural Night at Fenway Park (5/24); **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 17th, 2024 at noon in place of the City of Boston flag.