

BOCC

Proclamation Recognizing Martin Luther King, Jr., Day

WHEREAS, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was born on January 15, 1929, and dedicated his life to promoting peace, freedom, equality and justice for all through non-violent means; and challenged all of us to participate in the never-ending work of building and sustaining the Beloved Community, and

WHEREAS, Dr. King's teachings continue to guide and inspire us in addressing challenges & opportunities that arise in our diverse world; and

WHEREAS, "Martin Luther King Jr. Day," a federal holiday falling on the third Monday of every January, celebrates King's birth, honors his life and legacy, and raises awareness of the ongoing need to advance civil and human rights, was enacted as a federal holiday in 1983, becoming the first federal holiday honoring an African American; and

WHEREAS, on August 28, 1963, the Rev. Dr. King delivered a historic speech at the Lincoln Memorial which called for an end to racism in the United States, saying "Let us not wallow in the valley of despair, I say to you today, my friends. And so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal'"; and

WHEREAS, the Rev. Dr. King also said in this historic address, "And this will be the day - this will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning: My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing ... Let freedom ring from the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs - El Paso County, Southern Christian Leadership Conference Pikes Peak Chapter Colorado, Colorado College, Pikes Peak Justice & Peace Commission, NAACP CO-MT-WY State Conference, Colorado Springs Utilities, USAA, Pikes Peak Diversity Council, SGI-USA, Food for Thought, and other organizations join to co-sponsor the annual day of events honoring Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and launch greater participation in civic life, and

WHEREAS, El Paso County proudly recognizes the spirit, determination and achievements of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of El Paso County, Colorado, hereby recognizes January 19, 2021, as Martin Luther King, Jr., Day to honor the accomplishments and sacrifices of those who work to ensure equality, dignity and opportunity for all.

DONE THIS 19th day of January 2021 at Colorado Springs, Colorado.



**THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
OF EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO**

Stan VanderWerf
Stan VanderWerf, Chair

Cami Bremer
Cami Bremer, Vice Chair

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Longinos Gonzalez, Jr. Member

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Carrie Geitner, Member

ATTEST:

Chuck Broerman

Chuck Broerman
County Clerk and Recorder

Chuck Broerman
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El Paso County, CO



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