

CITY OF COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Staff Report

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
June 27, 2026	3.b

TO: Mayor Benetti, Council President DiNovo and City Councilors

FROM: Christine Sylvester, Executive Coordinator

THROUGH: Nichole Rutherford, City Manager

ISSUE: Approval of Juneteenth Proclamation

SUMMARY:

President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, ultimately resulting in the adoption of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished slavery. It wasn't until over two years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, Major General Gordon Granger announced the end of the Civil War and slavery after his arrival in Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865.

ACTION REQUESTED:

If it pleases Council, approve the proclamation designating June 19, 2025 as Juneteenth.

BACKGROUND:

With President Abraham Lincoln's signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, the United States embarked on a path to end slavery, drawing closer to the great tenet within the Declaration of Independence that "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." Following the Emancipation Proclamation over two and a half years later, word finally reached areas of the South and Southwest, ultimately providing knowledge of the Proclamation and end to slavery. Major General Gordon Granger announced the end of the Civil War and slavery on June 19, 1865 in Galveston, Texas; this date thereafter known as Emancipation Day. Since that date, communities across the nation have celebrated Juneteenth as a time of reflection, remembrance, and recommitment to those same self-evident truths, guiding efforts of equity, equality and justice.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

None.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 2026 Juneteenth.pdf