



# Memorandum

**TO:** City Council  
**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**FROM:** Mayor Matt Mahan  
**DATE:** May 18, 2023

**APPROVED:**

05/18/2023

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF PROCLAMATION OF JUNETEENTH ON JUNE 19, 2023 AND FLAG RAISING RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH ON JUNE 13 - 19, 2023 AS A CITY COUNCIL SPONSORED SPECIAL EVENT, AND ACCEPT DONATION OF MATERIALS FOR THE EVENT**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

1. Approve the Proclamation of Juneteenth on June 19, 2023 as a City Council sponsored Special Event and approve the expenditure of funds.
2. Approve the Juneteenth Flag Raising on June 13-19, 2023 as a City Council sponsored Special Event and approve the expenditure of funds.
3. Approve and accept donations from various individuals, businesses or community groups to support the event.
4. Place the item on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 Council Agenda for action.

## **BACKGROUND**

On February 1, 2005, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 72517 which requires Councilmembers to submit a memorandum to the Rules Committee regarding proposed City Council sponsored Special Events and the proposed use of any funds.

Juneteenth will be Proclaimed on June 19, 2023, at City Hall and sponsored by Mayor Mahan. The Juneteenth flag will be raised on June 13, 2023 with no ceremonial event. The flag will fly from June 13-19, 2023.

Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day, celebrates June 19, 1865, as the end of slavery in the United States and marks the last of the newly freed Black men and women of Galveston, Texas to be notified. Juneteenth took place two years after Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation went into effect, further serving as a reminder that no one is free until all are free. Juneteenth is the celebration and commemoration of Black Americans' freedom and power. Juneteenth is not just a day of remembrance of resiliency and persistence, but a day of empowerment, history, culture, and strength in unity.

**HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

**Subject:** Juneteenth Proclamation & Flag Raising

**Page 2**

The African American Community Services Agency (AACSA) holds an annual Juneteenth celebration. This year's 2023 celebration marks AACSA's 42<sup>nd</sup> year producing Juneteenth in the Street Festival in San José. The Festival celebrates African American heritage and is an opportunity to educate the community on topics ranging from health to education and financial literacy.

**ANALYSIS**

The raising of the Juneteenth Flag is permitted under Council Policy 2- 1, Section C.3, Flags Displayed in Conjunction with Official Ceremonial Items: "Other flags may be displayed in conjunction with official actions, ceremonial items, or proclamations of the City Council.

Approval by the City Council of the event will ensure compliance with the Council's prior direction regarding Council Special Events. Approval of this memorandum will enable Council Mayor's Office, City departments, and the Office of the City Clerk to proceed with the event.

**PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST**

The Office of the City Clerk will post the item on the City's Website for the June 13, 2023, City Council Agenda.

**CEQA**

Not a Project, File No. PP17-011, Temporary Special Events resulting in no changes to the physical environment.

Reviewed by:

TONI J. TABER, CMC  
City Clerk

For questions, please contact Toni Taber, City Clerk, at (408) 535-1260.