



## **Black History Month 2026 Proclamation**

**Whereas**, Black History Month is observed each February to recognize and celebrate the rich history, culture, achievements, and contributions of Black Americans who have shaped our nation's past, present, and future; and

**Whereas**, the experience, resilience, and leadership of Black individuals have been foundational to the advancement of civil rights, democracy, education, science, labor the arts, and social programs in the United States; and

**Whereas**, acknowledging Black history strengthens our collective understanding, fosters empathy, and reinforces our shared responsibility to promote equity, inclusion, and justice for all; and

**Whereas**, Black History Month provides an opportunity to reflect on both the profound accomplishments of Black Americans and the historical and ongoing inequity that continues to impact Black communities; and

**Whereas**, this year's theme, "A Century of Black History Commemorations" celebrate 100 years of organized Black history observances, tracing the evolution from Dr. Carter G. Woodson's inaugural Negro History Week in 1926 to today's nationally recognized Black History Month; and

**Whereas**, recognizing the essential contributions of Black employees across public service, private industry, and community organizations affirms the importance of equitable workplaces that value diversity, dignity, and opportunity for all workers; and

**Whereas**, in February 1976, President Gerald R. Ford called upon the American people to observe Black History Month by honoring the enduring and frequently underrecognized accomplishments of Black Americans across all fields and throughout the nation's history".

**Now, therefore**, the Town Council of Erie does hereby proclaim Black History Month be celebrated February 1-28, 2026, and we call upon all residents in the Town of Erie to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

**Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.**

---

Andrew J. Moore, Mayor

Attest:

---

Debbie Stamp, Deputy Town Clerk