



## **Black History Month Proclamation**

**Whereas**, Black History Month is an official celebration to recognize and honor the significant contributions, achievements, and history of African Americans and Black communities while encouraging reflection on the necessity of confronting the ongoing challenges of systemic racism and inequality; and

**Whereas**, February marks the beginning of a month-long celebration dedicated to honoring and reflecting upon the rich and diverse history of Black individuals and their communities; and

**Whereas**, we encourage and acknowledge the importance of education in fostering understanding and appreciation for the rich history and cultural heritage of Black Americans; and

**Whereas**, African American people, both native and migrant, fight every day for equal rights, citizenship, and the protection of the right to vote for all amidst a lack of representation in leadership roles and longstanding discrimination; and

**Whereas**, this year's theme, "African American and Labor" focuses on the various and profound ways that work and working of all kinds – free and unfree, skilled, and unskilled, vocational and voluntary – intersect with the collective experiences of Black people; and

**Whereas**, as frontline workers, caregivers, entrepreneurs, and professionals, African American people fulfill essential jobs and support the nation by bringing innovation, building resiliency, and strengthening our communities across all socioeconomic sectors; and

**Whereas**, in February 1976, President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month calling upon the public to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history"; and

**Now, therefore**, I, Council Member Daniel Hoback on behalf of Mayor Andrew J. Moore, do hereby proclaim that Black history Month be celebrated from Feb. 1-28, 2025, and I call upon all residents in the Town of Erie to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

**Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2025.**

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Andrew J. Moore, Mayor

Attest:

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Debbie Stamp, Deputy Town Clerk