



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, we celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by African-Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development; and

WHEREAS, established by American historian Carter G. Woodson, the original celebration of Black History Week was observed on February 12, 1926. In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, the week was expanded to a month; and

WHEREAS, the theme for Florida's 2020 Black History Month is "African Americans and the Vote"; as 2020 marks the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment and the culmination of the women's suffrage movement. This year also marks the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Fifteenth Amendment and the right of black men to the ballot after the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, Our country's and state's black leaders and Cocoa's own esteemed African American citizens of past and present continue to forage through these times, building our nation and improving our city making it a better place for all to live and thrive; and

WHEREAS, It is also important to remember those civil rights pioneers like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks, who broke down racial barriers and inspired our nation, as well as the Reverend C.K. Steele of Tallahassee, Harry and Harriette Moore of Brevard County, Reverend H.K. Matthews of Pensacola, and other leaders who worked to promote justice and equal rights for all Americans regardless of race; and

WHEREAS, as we celebrate Black History Month, we recognize the many contributions of African-Americans to our country and recommit to being a nation of opportunity and hope for every citizen.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Jake Williams, Jr., on behalf of the City Council of the City of Cocoa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2020 as:

"Black History Month"



WHEREFORE, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Cocoa to be affixed this 26th day of February, 2020.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk