

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, each February, National Black History Month serves as both a celebration and a powerful reminder that Black history is American history, Black culture is American culture, and Black stories are essential to the ongoing story of America – our faults, our struggles, our progress, and our aspirations; and,

WHEREAS, shining a light on Black history today is important to understanding ourselves and growing stronger as a Nation and as a City; and,

WHEREAS, it is essential that we take time to celebrate the immeasurable contributions of Black Americans, honor the legacies and achievements of generations past, reckon with centuries of injustice, and confront those injustices that still fester today; and,

WHEREAS, the long shadows of slavery, Jim Crow, and redlining – and the blight of systemic racism that still diminishes our Nation and our City today – hold us back from reaching our full promise and potential that all of us are created equal and deserve to be treated with equal dignity throughout our lives; and,

WHEREAS, that by facing those tragedies openly and honestly and working together as one people to deliver on America’s promise of equity and dignity for all, we become a stronger Nation and a stronger City; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Decatur has made a commitment to advancing racial equity and continues to take actions in support of this commitment; and,

WHEREAS, as we celebrate National Black History Month, let us continue to fight for the equity, opportunity, and dignity to which every Black American is due in equal measure.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Patricia M. Garrett, Mayor of the City of Decatur, the “City of Homes, Schools and Places of Worship”, do proclaim February, 2024 in Decatur as:

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

and encourage all citizens to participate in Black History Month events and to learn about and celebrate the lives, history and contributions of Black people during this month and throughout the year.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Seal of the City of Decatur, Georgia is affixed this 5th day of February, 2024.

Patricia M.
Garrett
Mayor