

# City of Framingham

The City Council of Framingham



## ORDER NO. 2022-078 REQUEST OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR

UPON THE REQUEST OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR, THE CITY OF FRAMINGHAM, THROUGH THE FRAMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL, IT IS SO ORDERED:

### **Joint Proclamation to Recognize Caribbean- American Heritage Month**

Whereas; for over two centuries the peoples of the Caribbean region, the United States of America, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and formerly the Town, presently the City of Framingham have developed enduring bonds based on mutual interests.

Whereas; Similar to the United States the inhabitants of the Caribbean region are a melting pot. They are of Indigenous, African, European and Asian decent and speak various languages. Either through the bondage of slavery or emigrating in search of a better life for themselves, their families, and their loved ones, as they left behind the world they knew. These courageous and tenacious people have been immigrating from around the region from locations such as but not limited to the independent island nations of Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago; and The following territories belonging to the United Kingdom; Anguilla, Bermuda, The British Virgin Islands, The Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos as well as The following territories belonging to the United States; Puerto Rico and the U.S Virgin Islands; and the following territories belonging to France; Guadeloupe, Martinique, Saba, Saint Barth's, Saint Eustatius and Saint Martin; and the following semi-autonomous territories of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao and Sint Maarten and finally due to their strong cultural connection, immigrants from the mainland continents of North, Central and South America to include Guyana, Belize, Honduras, Suriname, Costa Rica and Panama, have joined the family of Caribbean countries and

Whereas; amongst the millions of Caribbean immigrants are talented craftspeople, poets, doctors, scientists, athletes and entertainers. Many known and unknown have reached the pinnacle of their careers here in the United States which has undoubtedly enriched our national character and strengthened the fabric of our culture, and we are proud they are part of the American family; and

Whereas; the following are a small list of renowned individuals that have made indelible contributions in their vocations and to the United States; founding father and first Secretary of State; Alexander Hamilton was born in St. Kitts. The Vice President of the United States and former U.S Senator Kamala Harris is of Jamaican parentage. Grammy award winning singer-songwriter and entrepreneur Robyn Rihanna Fenty was born and raised in Barbados. Grammy & Tony award winning Actor, singersongwriter

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and playwright Lin Manuel Miranda is Puerto Rican. Retired Designated hitter from the Boston Red Sox, two-time World Series champion and future Baseball Hall of Famer David “Big Papi” Ortiz hails from The Dominican Republic; and

Whereas; In February 2005, the United States House of Representatives unanimously adopted H. Con. Res. 71, recognizing the significance of Caribbean people and their descendants in the history and culture of the United States; on February 14, 2006, the resolution similarly passed the Senate, culminating a two-year, bipartisan and bicameral effort; and

Whereas; Since the passage of the resolution in 2006, the President of the United States has issued an annual proclamation officially recognizing June as Caribbean American Heritage Month; and

Whereas; here in Framingham and throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts hundreds of thousands of Caribbean-Americans have also made countless and ever lasting contributions in our communities as educators, business owners, entrepreneurs, medical and health care professionals and public servants enhancing every sector of our society while proudly maintaining and displaying the pride and traditions from their respective homelands; and

Whereas; During Caribbean American Heritage Month, it is also important that we acknowledge and celebrate the indispensable relationship between the United States and the countries and territories of the Caribbean region. We should all strive to build on that long-standing friendship, assist to improve the health and education in the region, to promote sound economic development, democratic governance, and climate change mitigation; now Therefore

BE IT RESOLVED; The Framingham Council and Mayor recognize June 2022 as Caribbean-American Heritage month in the City of Framingham and encourage all residents to recognize the importance of the region’s influence on our community and partake in this month-long celebration.

## **CITY COUNCIL:**

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Cannon, King, Leombruno, Long, Mallach, Ottaviani, Stefanini, Steiner, Stewart-Morales

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: All members were present in person or via teleconferencing

PASSED IN COUNCIL: JUNE 21, 2022

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
FRAMINGHAM, MA.

2022 JUN 28 PM 5:13

A True Record, Attest:

6/27/2022

Date Approved

Lisa A. Ferguson

Lisa A. Ferguson, City Clerk  
Emily Butler, Assistant City Clerk

6/28/22

Date Approved

Charlie Sisitsky

Charlie Sisitsky, Mayor