

City of Poulsbo

Office of Mayor Edward (Ed) Stern



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, setting in motion the end of slavery in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** it was not until June 19, 1865, that it was announced to those still enslaved in Texas: "The people are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free"; and
- WHEREAS,** celebration of the end of slavery, which became known as Juneteenth, is the oldest known public celebration of the end of slavery in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and celebrates the successes gained through education and greater opportunity; and
- WHEREAS,** on a larger scale, celebration of Juneteenth reminds each of us of the precious promises of freedom, equality, and opportunity which are at the core of the American Dream; and
- WHEREAS,** our county's Juneteenth Freedom Festival will take place on Saturday, June 13, 2026, at Evergreen Rotary Park in Bremerton. The People's March will start at 10:00 a.m. at the Norm Dicks Government Center (5th Street stairs). All are welcome.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Edward Stern, Mayor of the City of Poulsbo, Washington, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2026, as:

JUNETEENTH

in the City of Poulsbo and encourage all citizens to join me in recognizing this important initiative.



Dated this 19 day of JUNE, 2026.

Edward R. Stern, Mayor