



CITY OF  
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who was born on January 15, 1929, dedicated his life to promoting peace, freedom, equality, and justice for all through non-violent means; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 15, 2019, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. would have been 90 years of age; and

**WHEREAS**, federal and state legislation has recognized Dr. King's legacy as one of America's outstanding civil rights leaders by adopting his birthdate as a national event on the third Monday of January; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 28, 1963, Dr. King, as part of the March on Washington, delivered a historic speech at the Lincoln Memorial which called for an end to racism in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement helped change public policy from segregation to integration, resulting in the repeal of the post-Reconstruction era state laws mandating racial segregation in the South known as the "Jim Crow Laws," thereby leading to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and other antidiscrimination laws aimed at ending economic, legal, and social segregation in America; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement helped change public policy from legal and socially acceptable discrimination and segregation to an open and accessible policy of racial integration leading to equal participation and access to primary and higher education, housing, employment, transportation, federal, state, and local governmental elections, and other aspects of public policy relating to human rights; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. King stated in his speech, "I say to you today, my friends, though, even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream that one day this nation will rise up, live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal;" and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. King continued to state in his speech, "This will be the day when all God's children will be able to sing with new meaning. "My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring." And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true;" and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. King believed that service was "the soul's highest purpose," and was the path to happiness, greatness and God; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. King once said, "***Life's most persistent and urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'***" Americans across the country will answer that question by coming together to honor Dr. King by helping their neighbors and communities through thousands of service projects spread across all 50 states; and

**WHEREAS**, Bainbridge Island residents are encouraged to observe the holiday not only by reflecting on Dr. King's legacy but also by actively serving others; and

**WHEREAS**, national and international events teach us the unfortunate lesson that the age of violence and hatred has not passed, and that now as much as at any time Dr. King's message of non-violence should be celebrated.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Kol Medina, Mayor of the City of Bainbridge Island, on behalf of the City Council do hereby proclaim Monday, January 21, 2019, as

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**

in the city of Bainbridge Island, Washington in recognition of his birth, life, and death, and ask all citizens to celebrate this day by continuing to live Dr. King's dream daily, respecting all others regardless of their race, color or creed.

Signed this 15<sup>TH</sup> day of January, 2019



Kol Medina, Mayor

