

SUBJECT: PROCLAMATION - DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING – 2024

DATE: JANUARY 2, 2024

**PRESENTED BY: MONAI MYLES, EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION
MANAGER**

SUMMARY:

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day is recognized annually on the third Monday of January. By commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the City of Louisville has the opportunity to reflect on King’s values of non-violence, beloved community, and justice and the role these values play in city government, as well as the steps we can take each day to bring us closer to living out our ideals.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Recognize Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day in the City of Louisville, CO.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Dr. Martin Luther King Proclamation - 2024

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT:

☐	 Financial Stewardship & Asset Management	☐	 Reliable Core Services
☐	 Vibrant Economic Climate	☐	 Quality Programs & Amenities
☒	 Engaged Community	☐	 Healthy Workforce
☐	 Supportive Technology	☐	 Collaborative Regional Partner



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Proclamation January 2024

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. devoted his life to the advancement of civil rights and public service, and believed in a nation of freedom and justice for all, and challenged all citizens to live up to the purpose and potential of America; and,

WHEREAS, a guiding principle for Dr. King's work was nonviolence, once considered the highest form of activism and radical change, which in its basic truth is the way to transform unjust systems and broken relationships; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. King declared, "We shall not...relinquish our privilege and our obligation to love. This is the only way to create the beloved community," outlining his vision for beloved community as one in which our global community practices justice, peace, love, and connection; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. King and the activists of the Civil Rights Movement risked and sacrificed their lives to transform public policy from segregation to integration, resulting in the repeal of state laws mandating racial segregation in the South known as the "Jim Crow Laws," the passage of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and other anti-discrimination laws aimed at ending economic, legal, and social segregation in America, and leading to Dr. King winning the Nobel Peace Prize on December 10, 1964; and,

WHEREAS, the theme of the King Center this year is 'Shifting the Cultural Climate through the Study and Practice of Kingian Nonviolence' a strategic approach to challenging injustice, navigating conflict, and creating more compassionate, constructive cultures; and,

WHEREAS, the movement to recognize Dr. King's legacy as a federal holiday began four days after his assassination, yet took 15 years of struggle before his birthday was finally approved as a federal holiday, and an additional 17 years for it to be recognized in all 50 states; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day is an opportunity for us to recognize his teachings in seeing the commonality of our dreams, our hopes, and our fears — the threads, truth, and dignity that binds together as human beings — and to encourage each citizen to take part in service that will benefit our communities and neighborhoods; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Louisville City Council hereby proclaims the third Monday of the month of January, as

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

and recognizes same as a day to seek inspiration for personal and collective action by honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and by observing this United States federal holiday.

DATED this 2nd day of January, 2023

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Meredyth Muth, City Clerk