



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Proclamation January 2025

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, 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 January 20, 2025, 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.

DATED this 7th day of January 2025.

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, Interim City Clerk