

The City of Holland, Michigan



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a champion for civil rights, a prophet of freedom, exhibited extraordinary courage and faith lifting his voice for the African American community and by extension many other voices; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate a movement that transformed our nation, and we remember that our freedom is inextricably bound to the freedom of others; and

WHEREAS, as a nation we continue to work toward achieving the dream where opportunity and access for all abound; and

WHEREAS, through his unrelenting resistance, persistence, and determination, he changed not only laws, but the hearts and minds of his fellow man; and

WHEREAS, now more than ever, we must heed his teachings by embracing our convictions and bring goodness and goodwill to others; and

WHEREAS, as a community let us learn to do right, seek justice, defend the oppressed, take up the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widows and love the foreigner as ourselves *(from Isaiah 1:17 NIV and Leviticus 19:34 NIV)*

WHEREAS, as a city we commemorate the life and legacy of Dr. King's great vision, we affirm the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

WHEREAS, his dream for greater economic opportunity, access, and equal treatment under the law for all has yet to be fully realized for many, we march forward to let hope for all abound around the world; and

WHEREAS, we invite City employees and our community to engage in community service in their schools, neighborhoods, and local non-profits to extend a hand of generosity and/or encouragement to their fellow man to continue the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, we are reminded by Dr. King, "We must walk on in the days ahead with an audacious faith in the future."

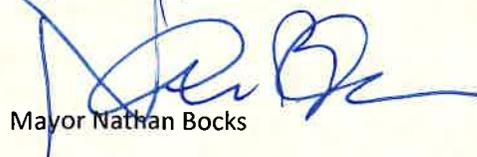
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nathan Bocks, Mayor of the City of Holland, Michigan, and members of the Holland City Council, do hereby proclaim,

the month of January to celebrate the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

We invite the community to not only celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. throughout our city and to share in this annual tribute but to also engage in community learning opportunities.



Given under my hand and the seal of the
City of Holland, this 15th of January 2025


Mayor Nathan Bocks