

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a 39-year-old Baptist pastor and leader of the American civil rights movement, was felled by an assassin's bullet at Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, on the evening of April 4, 1968, where he had traveled to support a strike by black public works employees; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1971, individual U.S. cities and states declared holidays to honor Dr. King, with the January federal holiday in his honor first celebrated in 1986 and observed annually on the third Monday of January; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, the King County Council approved an ordinance declaring Dr. King to be the County's official namesake, and in 2005, state legislation was approved to memorialize the Council's decision, and Councilmember Larry Gossett led the effort that year to change the County's logo to a design depicting Dr. King; and

WHEREAS, the employees of King County organize an annual celebration of Dr. King's life and legacy, which this year will be a virtual event held on Thursday, January 12, 2023;

WHEREAS, this year's theme, "Truth, Light and Hope," guides us as we strive each and every day to live up to Dr. King's legacy; and

WHEREAS, King County government re-commits today and every day to continuing Dr. King's work until it becomes an anti-racist/pro-equity organization serving a region where all can thrive;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Metropolitan King County Council and the King County Executive, hereby proclaim the month of January 2023 as

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Month

in King County and encourage all residents to commit themselves to continuing the work of Dr. King.

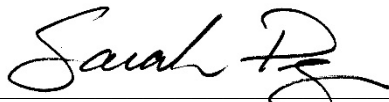
DATED this tenth day of January, 2023.



Dow Constantine, County Executive



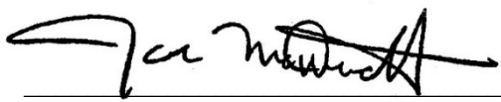
Rod Dembowski, District One



Sarah Perry, District Three



Claudia Balducci, District Six



Joe McDermott, District Eight



Dave Upthegrove, District Five, Council Chair



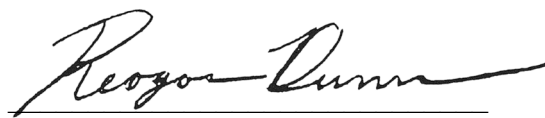
Girmay Zahilay, District Two



Jeanne Kohl-Welles, District Four, Council Vice-Chair



Pete von Reichbauer, District Seven



Reagan Dunn, District Nine, Council Vice-Chair