



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the City of Ankeny wishes to honor the impact Black Americans have made on our City and our Nation, and recommit to reaching for a day when no person is judged by anything but the content of their character; and

**WHEREAS**, observance of Black History Month allows us to reflect on the sacrifices and contributions made by generations of Black Americans, as intended by the creator of the celebration, black historian Carter G. Woodson; and

**WHEREAS**, Woodson chose February to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass, a famed abolitionist who escaped from slavery, and President Abraham Lincoln, who formally abolished slavery; and

**WHEREAS**, the contributions to innovation in science, technology, business, and the arts by Black Americans have been essential to the progress of our City, the State of Iowa and our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Ankeny recognizes the importance of Black History Month and our ongoing commitment to continuous improvement and self-reflection in order to become a more inclusive and responsive community.

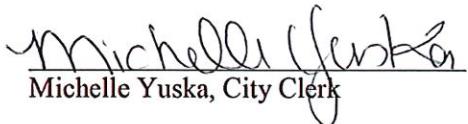
**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Bobbi Bentz, Mayor of the City of Ankeny, do hereby proclaim February, 2025 as Black History Month and call upon the community members of Ankeny to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities

**DATED AND SIGNED** this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2025.



Bobbi B. Bentz, Mayor

ATTEST:



Michelle Yuska, City Clerk