

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**  
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

<b>AGENDA TITLE:</b>	Proclamation of "Black History Month"		
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	CMO/CCK/D&I		
<b>PRESENTED BY:</b>	Jessica Simulcik Smith, City Clerk		
<b>ACTION:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolution	<input type="checkbox"/> Motion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proclamation

**PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:**

Much of Shoreline's honor, strength and distinction can be attributed to the diversity of cultures and traditions that are celebrated by the residents of this region. African Americans have played a significant role in the history of Washington State's economic, cultural, spiritual and political development.

This proclamation recognizes the month of February as Black History Month, a time in which all Americans are encouraged to reflect on past successes and challenges of African Americans and look to the future to improve society so that we live up to the ideals of freedom, equality and justice.

Menen Ghizaw, Black Student Union Leader, Shorewood High School, will be accepting the proclamation; and Suni Tolton, Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator, will be on hand to announce events scheduled in honor of Black History Month.

**2018 Shoreline Events**

- **Edwin Pratt and Civil Rights Presentation**

Sat. Jan. 27th, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
Shoreline Library, 345 NE 175th St.

Michelle Merriweather, Vice President of the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle, will present the history of local Civil Rights leader Edwin Pratt, who was a resident of the Shoreline community and Executive Director of the Seattle Urban League from 1961 – 1969. Learn how he and his colleagues laid the foundation for continuing the work on Civil Rights today.

- **Make America Read Again**

Sat. Feb. 3rd, 5:00pm – 6:30pm  
Shoreline City Hall

Author Saab Lofton will perform the poetry that made him the enemy of every white supremacist in Las Vegas during the Dubya Years and read from his latest novel, *Defend the Archive* (available on amazon.com). Lofton also works as a cartoonist, an award-winning journalist and an e-activist who led the charge to save half a million lives! Come for the enlightenment and stay to support the most unique labor struggle of all time by purchasing his acclaimed works! Contact David Francis at dfrancis@shorelinewa.gov or 206-801-2661 with any questions.

- **Under Our Skin Video and Discussion**

Sat. Feb. 10th, 2:00pm - 3:30pm  
Shoreline City Hall – Council Chambers

Explore The Seattle Times' Under Our Skin video project around race and inclusiveness. Discussion will challenge your assumptions, inspire you to think and talk about issues of race in a deeper way and help build common ground. Please RSVP to Denise Bugallo, King County Library System Regional Manager, at 206-362-7550 or dbugallo@kcls.org.

- **Shoreline Social Justice Book Group**

Sun. Feb. 11th, 2:00pm - 3:30pm  
Shoreline City Hall – Council Chambers

The Shoreline Social Justice Book (SSSB) group will be a rich opportunity to meet neighbors and build community by reading books focused on the experiences of people of color, LGBTQ, people with disabilities, and other marginalized groups, as well as social issues such as immigration and poverty. Discussions will be held on the second Sunday of each month at Shoreline City Hall. The first meeting on Sunday, February 11th at 2:00pm-3:30pm will be to select the books. If you are interested in participating, please RSVP to Denise Bugallo, King County Library System Regional Manager at the Shoreline Library 206-362-7550 or dbugallo@kcls.org.

- **The Unspoken Truths American History Traveling Museum**

Tue. Feb. 13th (Exact time is still to be determined.)  
Shoreline City Hall – Council Chambers

The Unspoken Truths American History Traveling Museum chronicles the rich history of Africans in Africa prior to American Chattel Slavery, the experiences and impact of American Chattel Slavery, Jim Crow Era, and the many contributions African Americans have had on scientific, cultural, and technological (inventions) innovations in the U.S. and the world. The exhibit will

be free and open to general public in Shoreline City Hall's Council Chambers in the evening. For more information, contact Suni Tolton, Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator at 206-801-2256 or [stolton@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:stolton@shorelinewa.gov).

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Mayor should read the proclamation.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A – Proclamation of Black History Month

Approved By: City Manager **DT** City Attorney **MK**



## **P R O C L A M A T I O N**

WHEREAS, much of Shoreline's honor, strength and distinction can be attributed to the diversity of cultures and traditions that are celebrated by the residents of this great region; and

WHEREAS, African Americans have played a significant role in the history of our nation, and Washington State's economic, cultural, spiritual and political development while working tirelessly to promote their culture and history; and

WHEREAS, as a result of their determination, hard work, and perseverance, African Americans have made valuable and lasting contributions to our community and our state, achieving exceptional success in all aspects of society including business, education, politics, science, and the arts; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Black History Month was formally adopted to honor and affirm the importance of Black History throughout our American experience, and recognizes individuals who took a stance against prejudice, advanced the cause of civil rights, and strengthened families, communities, and our nation; and

WHEREAS, all Americans are encouraged to reflect on past successes and challenges of African Americans and look to the future to improve society so that we live up to the ideals of freedom, equality and justice;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Will Hall, Mayor of the City of Shoreline, on behalf of the Shoreline City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2018 as

## **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

in the City of Shoreline.

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Will Hall, Mayor