CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING COMMUNICATION

ITEM: Approval of Proclamation
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 15, 2024

DATE: January 2, 2024

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

BACKGROUND:

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. devoted his life to advancing equality, social justice, and opportunity for all, and challenged all Americans to participate in the never-ending work of building a more perfect union.

The West Des Moines Human Rights Commission has requested the City adopt a proclamation to recognize Martin Luther King Jr. Day, which will be presented during the Martin Luther King Jr. Day events hosted by the commission on Monday, January 15th.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES (if any): None

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of Proclamation recognizing Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Lead Staff Member: Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk RTJ

STAFF REVIEWS

Department Director	Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk
Appropriations/Finance	
Legal	
Agenda Acceptance	RTJ

PUBLICATION(S) (if applicable)

Published In	
Dates(s) Published	

SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW (if applicable)

Committee			
Date Reviewed			
Recommendation	Yes	No	Split

Proclamation

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 15, 2024

Whereas, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. devoted his life to advancing equity, social justice, and opportunity for all, challenging everyone to participate in the never-ending work of building a more perfect union; and

Whereas, despite his untimely death, Dr. King's teachings continue to guide us in addressing perennial challenges in our communities; and

Whereas, we are forever indebted to him for his sacrifice, so we honor his life each year by recognizing the profound impact he had locally and globally; and

Whereas, millions of Americans have been inspired by the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to challenge injustice, serve with compassion, and center the lives of those in the margins; and

Whereas, each of us has a responsibility to contribute to making our communities better, with increased access and opportunity for all residents; and

Whereas, the King Holiday and Service Act, enacted in 1994, is one of only two federal holidays commemorated as a National Day of Service, and offers an opportunity for individuals to give back to their communities through partnerships; and

Whereas, I encourage West Des Moines residents to make it a day on, not a day off, by volunteering with agencies like Meals from the Heartland or throughout the year with our Human Services Department to help feed our most food insecure residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Russ Trimble, Mayor of the City of West Des Moines, Iowa, do hereby proclaim January 15, 2024

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

as a Day of Service in West Des Moines and call upon the community to pay tribute to the life and works of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. today and throughout the year.

ATTEST:

Russ Trimble, Mayor

Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk