

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia affirms that all people, regardless of their racial, ethnic, or religious identity, skin color, or physical traits - deserve equitable opportunity to thrive and participate fully in our democracy, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia recognizes that achieving racial equity requires acknowledging and addressing the historic and present-day harms of racism, and supporting efforts that build connection, trust, and belonging across our diverse community; and

WHEREAS, the National Day of Racial Healing, launched by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, invites communities across the nation to engage in truth-telling, relationship-building, and collective action in support of the Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) framework; and

WHEREAS, racial healing is a foundational step toward transforming systems that perpetuate inequity and toward creating a future in which all people—especially children—can grow, learn, and flourish in environments that honor their safety, dignity, and humanity; and

WHEREAS, healing requires intentional effort from individuals, communities, and institutions, each of whom have the ability to make meaningful change that contributes to a more just and equitable society; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia understands that bridging divides, challenging false narratives about race, and fostering authentic relationships are essential to building a thriving community where everyone feels a sense of belonging; and

WHEREAS, the National Day of Racial Healing provides an opportunity for communities to gather, reflect, and engage in shared learning and dialogue that support progress toward racial equity and collective wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia is pleased to partner with the South Sound YMCA and Olympia Timberland Library to host two community activities in honor of the National Day of Racial Healing including a community art exhibit highlighting local expressions of healing and racial equity, and a community gathering for the purpose of fostering connections and deepening our collective understanding of racial healing through storytelling, presentations, and conversations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Olympia, joining communities across the United States of America, proclaims Tuesday, January 20, 2026 as

THE NATIONAL DAY OF RACIAL HEALING

in the City of Olympia, and encourages all residents to participate in activities that promote truth, racial healing, and transformation—both individually and collectively—as we work together to ensure that every child, family and community member thrives and feels a sense of belonging now and in the generations that follow.

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 13th DAY OF JANUARY 2026.

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL

*Dontae Payne
Mayor*