

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The Fair Housing Act, enacted on April 11, 1968, enshrined into federal law the goal of eliminating racial segregation and ending housing discrimination in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing based on race, color, religion, sex, familial status, national origin, and disability, and commits recipients of federal funding to affirmatively further fair housing in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Olympia is committed to the mission and intent of Congress to provide fair and equal housing opportunities for all; and

WHEREAS, Our social fabric, the economy, health, and environment are strengthened in diverse, inclusive communities; and

WHEREAS, More than fifty years after the passage of the Fair Housing Act, discrimination persists and many communities remain segregated; and

WHEREAS, Acts of housing discrimination and barriers to equal housing opportunity are unacceptable; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia has completed work to identify housing disparities and barriers through formation of regional goals to affirmatively further fair housing in Thurston County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia supports efforts to assist individuals harmed by discriminatory practices in Washington State, such as the Covenant Homeownership Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia has joined the Black Home Initiative to strive to right the wrongs of past discriminatory practices and commits to doing all it can to ensure Black homebuyers get an opportunity to purchase homes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia will co-host a Thurston County Homebuying Expo with Thurston County REALTORS Association on April 18, 2026 to expand access to homeownership for Thurston County residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Olympia City Council, does hereby proclaim April 2026 as

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

In Olympia as an inclusive community committed to fair housing and to promoting equal housing opportunities for all residents and prospective residents of Olympia.

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 14th DAY OF APRIL 2026.

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL

Dontae Payne, Mayor