

## RESOLUTION NO. 18-08

### **Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Emeryville Recognizing the Significance of Black History Month And Directing That The Pan-African Flag Be Flown At City Hall For The Month Of February 2018**

**WHEREAS**, the theme of Black History Month for 2018 is “African Americans in Times of War,” to commemorate the centennial of the end of the First World War in 1918, and to provide a broad, useful framework for focusing on the roles of African-Americans in every American war, from the Revolutionary War Era to that of the present “War against Terrorism”; and

**WHEREAS**, this theme gives an opportunity to consider the specific and unique issues faced by African-Americans in times both of war and of peace, including opportunities for advancement and repression of opportunities; the impact of migration and urban development; educational opportunities; health care development; the roles of civil rights and Black liberation organizations; the roles of African-American businesses, women, religious institutions, and the Black press; and how Black soldiers and veterans are documented and memorialized in history and within public and private spaces - diverse stories that reveal war’s impact not only on men and women in uniform but on the larger African-American community; and

**WHEREAS**, the first Africans were brought against their wills to the shores of the Americas as early as the 17th century and these Africans in America and their descendants are now known as African-Americans; and

**WHEREAS** African-Americans suffered enslavement and subsequently faced the injustices of lynch mobs, segregation, and denial of basic, fundamental rights; and

**WHEREAS**, even after emancipation, African-Americans have been subjected to institutionalized racism in various forms, including the Black Codes, Jim Crow laws, and redlining, among others; and

**WHEREAS** despite slavery, and the disparities in education, poverty, and the criminal justice system, African-Americans in all walks of life have made far-reaching contributions throughout the history of the United States in their work as civil rights leaders, politicians, activists, clergy, social reformers, educators, architects, poets and authors, entrepreneurs, inventors, scientists, artists and filmmakers, athletes, and entertainers, among others; and

**WHEREAS** in the face of injustice, United States citizens of good will and of all races have distinguished themselves with their commitment to the noble ideas upon which the United States was founded and courageously fought for the rights and freedom of African-Americans; and

**WHEREAS** the month of February is officially celebrated as Black History Month, which dates back to 1926 when Dr. Carter G. Woodson set aside a special period of time in February to recognize the heritage and achievement of Black Americans; and

**WHEREAS** in 1920, Marcus Garvey created the Pan-African flag in response to a popular racist song called "Every Race Has a Flag But the Coon" and the United Negro Improvement Association adopted the flag as the universal symbol of black liberation on August 13, 1920; and

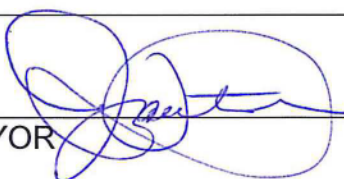
**WHEREAS** the red in the flag stands for the blood shed by Africans in their fight for liberation, the black in the flag stands for people of the African race, and the green stands for the fertility, productivity and beauty of the African continent; now, therefore, be it


**RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Emeryville hereby recognizes and honors February as Black History Month, and, be it


**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council directs that the Pan-African flag be flown at City Hall, and in accordance with the United States Flag Code, for the entire month of February 2018.

**ADOPTED**, by the City Council of the City of Emeryville at a special meeting held Tuesday, February 6, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES:	<u>5</u>	Mayor Bauters, Vice Mayor Medina and Council Members Donahue, Martinez and Patz
NOES:	<u>0</u>	
ABSTAIN:	<u>0</u>	
ABSENT:	<u>0</u>	

  
MAYOR

ATTEST:  
  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
  
CITY ATTORNEY