

Proclamation
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 18, 2021

Whereas, 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; and

Whereas, Dr. King's teachings can continue to guide and inspire us in addressing challenges in our communities; and

Whereas, we are forever indebted to him for his meaningful contributions and therefore it is proper and fitting to highlight the life of a man who has had such a profound impact on changing an entire nation; and

Whereas, Dr. King, a leader in the American civil rights movement of the 1960's, fought for racial and economic justice and is lauded for the nonviolent approach to civil disobedience; and

Whereas, the King Holiday and Service Act, enacted in 1994, designated the King Holiday as a national day of volunteer service; and

Whereas, The Universal Declaration of Human Rights empowers us all. The principles enshrined in the Declaration are as relevant today as they were in 1948; and

Whereas, since 1994 millions of Americans have been inspired by the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to serve their neighbors and communities on the King Holiday; and

Whereas, serving on the King Holiday is an appropriate way to honor Dr. King, meet local and national needs, bring our citizens together, and strengthen our communities and nation; and

Whereas, the King Day of Service is the only federal holiday commemorated as a national day of service, and offers an opportunity for Americans to give back to their communities on the holiday and make an ongoing commitment to service throughout the year; and

Whereas, each of us can and must contribute to making our communities better with increased opportunity for all our citizens; and

Whereas, the citizens of Ankeny, Iowa have the opportunity to participate in events throughout our City on the King Day of Service, January 18, 2021, as well as create and implement community service projects where they identify the need.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gary Lorenz, Mayor of the City of Ankeny, Iowa, do hereby proclaim

Martin Luther King Jr. Day 2021

as a Day of Service in Ankeny, and call upon the people of the community to pay tribute to the life and works of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through participation in community service projects on Martin Luther King Day and throughout the year.

Signed this 4th day of January, 2021.

Gary Lorenz, Mayor