

**WHEREAS**, *Black History Month* is observed in February of every year; and

**WHEREAS**, *Black History Month* seeks to emphasize Black history and its cultural contributions to American life, and is designed to recognize and pay tribute to the many contributions of African Americans to the history, society and culture of the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, *Black History Month* celebrates the achievements of African Americans in the Arts, Civil Rights, Education, Entertainment, Government, History, Law, Literature, Medicine, Military, Music, Politics, Science, Sports, and other endeavors; and

**WHEREAS**, *Black History Month is the time to highlight and reflect on national Civil Rights Leaders and pioneers that changed the course of history;* such as Martin Luther King Jr; Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman elected to Congress, Katherine G. Johnson, one of NASA's human computers who performed the complex calculations that enabled humans to successfully achieve space flight; and Barack Obama, the first African American to be elected President; and

**WHEREAS** *Black History Month also allows us the opportunity to recognize the life and contributions of local African American heroes in Delray Beach;* such as Solomon David Spady, C. Spencer Pompey, Vera Farrington, Susan Williams, Mary Cohen, Beatrice "Pet" Rolle, William Robinson, Clarence Walker, Elizabeth Wesley to name a few and our cultural institutions such as the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum; and

**WHEREAS**, a display recognizing the contributions celebrating *Black History Month* will be featured in the S.D. Spady Cultural Heritage Museum during the month of February; Florida Highwaymen featuring Curtis Arnett, R.L. Lewis, Willie Reagan, and Isaac Knight will be coming to Delray Beach for an art exhibit, live painting demonstrations, and a panel discussion.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Shelly Petrolia**, Mayor of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, on behalf of the City Commission do hereby proclaim the month of February 2020 as:

## **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

and encourage all our residents to join in this recognition of the accomplishments and contributions made to our community and country by African Americans.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

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**SHELLY PETROLIA**  
**MAYOR**