



King County

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Black entrepreneurship is a foundational force in the cultural, civic, and economic vitality of King County; and

WHEREAS, the continued growth of Black-owned businesses is both a measure of our region's growth and a call to keep widening the path for those still rising; and

WHEREAS, across the Eastside and throughout our region, Black-owned businesses have long expanded opportunity, generated employment, anchored neighborhoods, and built community wealth while navigating barriers other entrepreneurs do not face; and

WHEREAS, Black Business Month takes on particular meaning on the Eastside, where a new generation of Black founders, makers, and small business owners is reshaping the cultural and economic fabric of our communities, and where investment in cross-cultural gathering spaces is creating room for the full breadth of who we are to be seen, celebrated, and supported; and

WHEREAS, King County is committed to advancing equity, celebrating cultural belonging, and supporting community-led efforts that lift up Black businesses, families, and futures;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Girmay Zahilay, Executive of King County, do hereby proclaim August 2026 as

BLACK BUSINESS MONTH

and recognize **BLACK ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON THE EASTSIDE**. I encourage all residents to honor the contributions of Black-owned businesses by gathering, patronizing, and investing in the entrepreneurs who continue to enrich the region.

DATED this 23rd day of August, 2026.


Girmay Zahilay
King County Executive