



# RESOLUTION

CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS - A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

By: Chavez, Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Warren, Vetaw, Osman,  
Shaffer, Stevenson, Chughtai, Whiting, Chowdhury, and Palmisano

## HONORING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HAITIAN FLAG TO THE PEOPLE OF HAITI AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF HAITIAN FLAG DAY

- Whereas: In 1492 the Indigenous Taino people discovered the lost mercenary Christopher Columbus off the coast of what was known then and now as Haiti or Ayiti, a name deriving from the Arawak language, and one which was restored after Independence was won from the French; and
- Whereas: After a painful history of Indigenous genocide and cruel exploitation of the labor of enslaved African peoples on vast sugar and coffee plantations that transferred significant wealth to European colonial powers, Haiti became the only nation in the Western Hemisphere to defeat three European empires, and remains the only nation in the world established as the result of a successful revolutionary uprising of enslaved African people; and
- Whereas: Hundreds of Haitians have made the Twin Cities their home, often as refugees, and this civically engaged community is a unique part of the diversity of Minneapolis, contributing to our vibrant arts, musical scene, and local business community; and
- Whereas: When Haiti was hit by a devastating earthquake in 2010, the Haitian diaspora community in Minneapolis and around the world acted, gathering resources and supplies to send home, and the local Haitian community created the nonprofit Haitian Communities of Minnesota to align efforts for earthquake relief and continue to provide services to local Haitian families through this organization; and
- Whereas: The city recognizes the efforts and work of the Haitian Communities of Minnesota who provide sustainable support and advocacy for Haitian people living in Minnesota and Haiti; and
- Whereas: Haitian Flag Day is celebrated annually on May 18, marking the date of creation of the first Haitian flag sewn by Catherine Flon, on May 18, 1803, in Arcahaie, Haiti; and
- Whereas: the Haitian flag is a symbol of pride, unity, individual liberty, and is tightly linked to the country's history of struggle and freedom;

**—NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED—**

That the Mayor and City Council do hereby recognizes May 18 as Haitian Flag Day, recognizes the significance of the Haitian Flag to the people of Haiti, and supports the goals and ideals of Haitian Flag Day.

Passed this the Twenty-First Day of May 2026

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Elliott Payne, President of the Council

Approved:

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Jacob Frey, Mayor

Attest:

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Casey Joe Carl, City Clerk