WHEREAS, in September 1915, Harvard-trained historian Carter G. Woodson and minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by Black Americans and other peoples of African descent; and

WHEREAS, known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), the group sponsored a national Negro History week in 1926, choosing the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of abolitionist Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, the event inspired many communities nationwide to organize celebrations, establish history clubs and host performances and lectures - by the late 1960s, as the civil rights movement helped influence greater awareness of Black identity, Negro History Week had evolved into Black History Month across the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and other countries; and

WHEREAS, President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history," and every American president since has designated February as Black History Month and endorsed a specific theme; and

WHEREAS, in the month of February, many contributing groups such as Legacy Keepers of East McKinney, McKinney BHM program committee, McKinney Public Library System, and the city's Historic Preservation division will provide valuable opportunities for all residents to learn about Black History in McKinney, Texas.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE C. FULLER, BY THE POWER VESTED IN ME AS MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MCKINNEY, TEXAS, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM FEBRUARY 2024 AS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

IN MCKINNEY, TEXAS, ENCOURAGING ALL CITIZENS TO TAKE PART IN LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER, WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL THIS 6TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024.

_____
GEORGE C. FULLER, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
EMPRESS DRANE, City Secretary