



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** 56 years after his death, the life and legacy of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. continue to inspire our nation, in a steadfast pursuit of a better future for all; and
- WHEREAS,** Dr. King's fight for freedom and equality are reflected within the City of Olathe's commitment to a high quality of life for all residents, as laid out in the Olathe 2040: Future Ready Strategic Plan; and
- WHEREAS,** the theme of the 2026 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Contest is "Love," reminding participants that, as Dr. King said, "Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend"; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Olathe is proud to join our community partners in celebrating Dr. King's life, including the Olathe Human Relations Commission, Olathe Public Schools, Garmin and the NAACP.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Bacon, Mayor of the City of Olathe, do hereby proclaim January 19, 2026,

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

in Olathe, encouraging all residents to join us in our annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Contest Celebration on Saturday, January 17, at 10 a.m. at Olathe Northwest High School.

Further more, we urge each Olathean to rededicate oneself to upholding equal rights and justice for all.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Olathe to be affixed this sixth day of January, 2026.

John W. Bacon, Mayor

Brenda D. Swearingian, City Clerk