

ERIN MENDENHALL Mayor

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, April marks the 56th anniversary of the enactment of Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, commonly known as the Fair Housing Act, which prohibits discrimination in all housing transactions and affirmatively furthers fair housing opportunities for all through proactive actions to foster inclusive communities; and

WHEREAS, when President Lyndon B. Jonson signed the Fair Housing Act, he declared fair housing for all human beings who live in this country as "part of the American way of life;" and

WHEREAS, the Fair Housing Act, as amended, is enforced at the federal level by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which has declared April to be "Fair Housing Month" with the theme of "Fair Housing: 'The Act' in action;" and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake City recognizes the legacy of discriminatory housing practices, including redlining and racial covenants, that shaped the City's neighborhoods and availability of opportunities, disproportionately impacting communities of color; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake City celebrates the rich diversity of our people and the right of all individuals and households to live where they choose without fear of discrimination, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, and national origin; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake City is committed to ensuring equal access to rental and homeownership opportunities for all residents, furthering the purposes of the Fair Housing Act; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake City's Fair Housing Policy of 2009 provides additional protections for individuals by prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, forging a policy that would later be adopted by Salt Lake County and the State of Utah; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, Salt Lake City adopted "Housing SLC," the City's new five-year housing plan to guide progress on increasing the supply of units at all levels of affordability and increasing avenues for homeownership and other equity-building opportunities for all residents; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake City is also committed to addressing displacement and gentrification through implementing strategies outlined in "Thriving in Place," the City's plan to increase stability, combat displacement, and improve affordability for all residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Erin Mendenhall, Mayor of Salt Lake City, proclaim April 2024 as:

Fair Housing Month in Salt Lake City

April 1, 2024

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Erin Mendenhall Mayor