A PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

WHEREAS, Dr. King was a leading figure of the Civil Rights Movement whose non-violent activism brought about monumental progress in racial equality and justice and led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. dedicated his life to the principles of equality, justice, and nonviolent social change, leaving an indelible mark on the history of our nation; and

WHEREAS, more than sixty years later, Dr. King's "dream" still resonates, inspiring us to navigate, confront, and address the ongoing impacts of structural racism, both locally and nationally; and

WHEREAS, remembering and celebrating Dr. King and his achievements encourages us to reflect on the importance of individuals speaking up against injustice and providing a voice for underrepresented and underprivileged communities. Dr. King famously said, "darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that;" and

WHEREAS, the City of Soledad recognizes the significance of commemorating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as a source of inspiration for building bridges of understanding and promoting unity among our residents; and

WHEREAS, as we look to the future, let us be inspired by Dr. King's legacy and informed by his wisdom and rededicate ourselves to keeping his dream alive and volunteering to make meaningful change in Soledad.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAMIED, by the Council of the City of Soledad that this 20th of January 2025 is **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day** and we urge all residents to join in honoring the life and contributions of this remarkable leader and participating in activities that foster unity, understanding, and positive social change.

Dated on this 20th day of November 2024

_____
Anna M. Velazquez, Mayor

_____
Fernando Cabrera, Mayor Pro Tem

_____
Fernando Ansaldo-Sanchez, Councilmember

_____
Evarista Bañuelos, Councilmember

_____
Ben Caldera, Councilmember