



The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church

Grow with us * Transform the world

Dr. Kendrick E. Curry
Senior Pastor/Teacher

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Mrs. Gail P. Day
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Ms. Cynthia D. Carr
Church Clerk

June 26, 2024

Mr. Clinton Osborn, Acting Director
Emergency Management Agency
D. C. Mayor's Special Events Task Group
2720 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, SE, 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20032
dc.msetg@dc.gov

Dear Mr. Osborn:

I am writing to enthusiastically support of a Juneteenth Parade along the Pennsylvania Avenue East corridor in Ward 7.

On June 19, 1865—two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, Union soldiers marched into Galveston, TX, and proclaimed freedom to the enslaved people. The commemoration of this great event has become known as Juneteenth, and it is a call to remember the end of the most horrific periods in American history. Furthermore, it is constant reminder of the prolonged, perplexing and progressive struggle for the liberation of Black people in pursuit of equity and justice.

A Juneteenth parade in Ward 7 provides an excellent opportunity for neighborhoods and friends to come together, reflect, learn, and celebrate this important part of Black history. Juneteenth enables all to not only embrace our past by recognizing our local champions for justice, but it allows us to ground and empower future generations to carry the torch of peace and justice for all.

A Juneteenth parade would showcase the beauty of the diversity of cultural expression and heritage among Black people of the African diaspora. Such a showcase forcefully reinforces the African values of community, cooperative economics, storytelling and dialog with the elders. Hosting a Juneteenth parade in Ward 7 would also be aimed at creating an economic impact by drawing residents and friends from other wards to join in the celebration.

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The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church strongly and enthusiastically supports the idea of celebratory parade aimed at remembering Black history, celebrating Black culture, and constructing a future where Black people embody equity, justice and power. Feel free to contact me with any questions, and thanks in advance for your efforts to realize a Ward 7 Juneteenth parade along the Pennsylvania Avenue East corridor.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kendrick E. Curry". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the "Sincerely Yours," text.

Rev. Kendrick E. Curry, PhD
Senior Pastor

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