



King County

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was felled by an assassin's bullet at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee on the evening of April 4, 1968 – this year marks the 50th anniversary of that infamous crime; and

WHEREAS, the charismatic 39-year-old Baptist pastor and leader of the American Civil Rights Movement was in Memphis to speak in support of striking black public works employees when his life was cut short; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1971, individual U.S. cities and states declared holidays to honor Dr. King, with the January federal holiday in his honor first celebrated in 1986, and officially observed in all 50 states in 2000; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, King County, Washington, by a vote of its Council, declared Dr. King as the county's official namesake; and

WHEREAS, the King County Council voted to change the County's logo to a design depicting Dr. King in 2007; and

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, April 4, 2018, the April 4 MLK Celebration Committee and many justice organizations will gather at Seattle's Mt. Zion Baptist Church to mark the 50th Anniversary of Dr. King's death and to renew the community's commitment to continuing his work.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dow Constantine, Executive of King County, do hereby proclaim April 4, 2018 to be

Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

in King County. I encourage all residents to observe this day and to commit themselves to continuing the work of Dr. King.



Dow Constantine
King County Executive