

# DENVER CITY COUNCIL



## Proclamation No. 25-1245 Honoring the Celebration of Ashenda in Colorado

**WHEREAS**, The City and County of Denver has a long history of partnership with Denver-Axum Sister Cities and the Tigray Community of Colorado to host the annual Festival Ashenda in honor of Black womanhood, sisterhood, femininity, joy and freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, Ashenda is a holiday celebrated around the world by Tigrayan's of all religions through freedom of expression in fashion, dance, song, drumming, spoken word, art and more; and

**WHEREAS**, Ashenda is a celebration to uplift and empower women and girls in Tigray and the Tigrayan Diaspora; and

**WHEREAS**, Ashenda recognizes the contributions of women and girls as pillars of strength and joy in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, The City and County of Denver recognizes and values indigenous peoples' cultural traditions, especially those centered around women and girls; and

**WHEREAS**, Ashenda is celebrated at the City of Axum Park in Denver introducing the local community to the strength and beauty of the people of Tigray; and

**WHEREAS**, Ashenda passes down the customs and traditions of the Tigrayan people from the elders to girls and young women through stories, song, and dance; and

**WHEREAS**, Ashenda is a family-centered celebration emphasizing the importance of Tigrayan family values and traditions.

### **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE Denver City Council:**

**Section 1.** The Denver City Council recognizes the Colorado Tigray community for incredible contributions to our city, commitment to each other, and efforts to build stronger global connections.

**Section 2.** The Denver City Council celebrates the historic partnership with Denver-Axum Sister Cities for their efforts building bridges across borders, celebrating cultures, and fostering international collaboration between our sister cities.

**Section 3.** That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Millete Birhanemaskel, President of Tigray Community of Colorado.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL August 25, 2025

*Amunde P. Sandor*

PRESIDENT

