



# CITY OF RIVERDALE

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the City of Riverdale lies within territory that was part of the Louisiana Purchase.

**WHEREAS**, on April 30, 1803, the Louisiana Purchase became property of the United States of America when it was sold to President Thomas Jefferson by the French leader, Napoleon Bonaparte.

**WHEREAS**, the lands sold within the Louisiana Purchase had previously been deeded from France to Spain via the Treaty of Fontainebleau in 1762.

**WHEREAS**, the lands, along with six warships, were transferred to the French in 1800 through the Third Treaty of San Ildefonso, but notification did not reach the entirety of the territory that it had become French territory again.

**WHEREAS**, on March 8, 1804, Spanish governor of St. Louis, Don Carlos de Hault de Lassus, posted notice to the door of the city church notifying residents of the impending switch of nationalities.

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 1804, army commander Amos Stoddard, the first civil and military commandant of Upper Louisiana, and explorer Meriwether Lewis, with a band of soldiers, marched to the governor's mansion, signed the transfer papers, and de Lassus surrendered his post.

**WHEREAS**, after surrendering the post, the flag of the Spanish Empire was lowered at noon, and was replaced with the flag of the First Republic of France, which would fly for 24 hours in honor of St. Louis' French roots.

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, at noon, the French flag was replaced by the flag of the United States of America. The changes were celebrated with a large party that included many historic figures such as Auguste Chouteau, Meriwether Lewis, and William Clark.

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that I, Anthony Heddlesten, Mayor of the City of Riverdale, Iowa, do hereby proclaim from noon on March 9 through noon on March 10, 2022

## THREE FLAGS DAY

And encourage all citizens to read more about Three Flags Day as an important part of United States history and celebrate the many cultures that helped to form our great nation.

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Anthony Heddlesten, Mayor  
City of Riverdale, Iowa

Sources:

<https://fieldhousemuseum.org>

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/three-flags-day-history>