

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCLAIMING OCTOBER)
14, 2019 AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY IN THE)
GREATER PORTLAND AREA AND NOVEMBER AS)
NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH)

RESOLUTION NO. 19-5036

Introduced by Councilor Shirley Craddick

WHEREAS, Metro recognizes that American Indians and Alaska Natives have lived on these lands we all cherish since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, it is important for us to never forget American history through the perspective of Native people in our country because it reminds us of forced migration, broken treaties, and other injustices that should never be repeated. This history is a lesson to all of us of the perseverance and resilience of Native people in the face of these injustices and the continued integrity and vitality of their cultures and their governments. As we work together to forge a brighter future, we cannot shy away from the difficult aspects of our past; and

WHEREAS, Metro recognizes that Oregon's tribal people were impacted by the Western Oregon Indian Termination Act that was passed by the U.S. Congress in 1954. As a result of this act, many tribal governments were abolished and their members were relocated to urban areas, making Portland the 9th largest urban Indian population in the United States, with over 40,000 tribal people representing 380 tribes; and

WHEREAS, Native people have contributed to the unique culture of the greater Portland area and this country, with a special emphasis on traditional ecological knowledge and core values that go beyond materialism. Today, Native Americans are leaders in every aspect of our society – from the classroom, to the boardroom, to the battlefield; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples Day transforms a celebration of colonialism into an opportunity to recognize the thriving traditions and deeply rooted values of the Indigenous people who reside in the greater Portland area, and their ancestors before them; and

WHEREAS, November is Native American Heritage Month originating in 1990 the month is to celebrate rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories and to acknowledge the important contributions of Native people; now therefore:

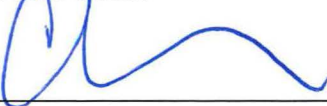
BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council proclaims October 14, 2019 as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the greater Portland area and November Native American Heritage Month to honor and celebrate the many contributions made by the Indigenous peoples throughout our vibrant community. We encourage other businesses, organizations, public institutions, and community members to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day and take time to learn and teach others about the history and cultural significance of the American Indian and Alaska Native community.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this seventeenth day of October 2019.



Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:



Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 19-5036, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 14, 2019 AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY IN THE GREATER PORTLAND AREA AND NOVEMBER AS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Date: October 2, 2019
Department: Council Office
Meeting Date: October 17, 2019

Prepared by: Kate Fagerholm,
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Presenter: Cassie Salinas

ISSUE STATEMENT

The Metro Council has an opportunity honor, acknowledge, and celebrate the resiliency of Indigenous communities in this region and beyond by adopting Resolution No. 19-5036, proclaiming October 14, 2019 as the fifth annual Indigenous Peoples' Day in the greater Portland area and proclaiming November 2019 as Native American Heritage Month.

ACTION REQUESTED

Consideration and vote on Resolution No. 19-5036.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Advancing the Metro Council's proclamation for October 14, 2019 to be the fifth annual Indigenous Peoples' Day in the greater Portland area to opportunity honor, acknowledge, and celebrate the resiliency of Indigenous communities in this region and beyond.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends the Metro Council adopt Resolution No. 19-5036.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- Council adoption of this resolution will further Metro's commitment to the goals stated in the Strategic Plan to advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, in particular:
 - Metro meaningfully engages communities of color
 - Metro hires, trains and promotes a racially diverse workforce
 - Metro creates safe and welcoming services, programs and destinations
- Known Opposition/Support/Community Feedback
None

- Legal Antecedents
Metro Council Resolution No. 15-4663; Metro Council Resolution No. 16-4748;
Metro Council Resolution No. 17-4851; Metro Resolution No. 18-4936; Metro
Resolution 19-4992.
- Anticipated Effects
October 14, 2019 to be the fifth annual Indigenous Peoples' Day in the greater
Portland area
- Financial Implications
None

BACKGROUND

Native and Indigenous people in our country have suffered forced migration, broken treaties, and other injustices that should never be repeated. This history is a lesson to all of us of the perseverance and resilience of Native people in the face of these injustices and the continued integrity and vitality of their cultures and their governments.

The second Monday in October is recognized by the federal government as Columbus Day. However, Columbus Day is not recognized by the State of Oregon. Since 2015, Metro has joined other local governments from around the greater Portland area in recognizing the important history and culture of Indigenous People in our community, country, and around the world.

In May 2017, the Metro Council adopted an updated Diversity Action Plan, following Council's adoption of the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in 2016. Together, these policies seek to address systemic inequities and create a more equitable region for all by focusing on racial equity, diversity and inclusion of historically marginalized communities in every aspect of Metro's work. Several Metro departments, including the Oregon Zoo, Parks and Nature, Planning and Development, and Property and Environmental Services, have been completing departmental racial equity action plans to implement the strategic plan.

Declaring October 14, 2019 as the fifth annual Indigenous Peoples' Day in the greater Portland area will honor and acknowledge the resiliency of Indigenous communities in this region and beyond and proclaiming and November Native American Heritage Month to honor and celebrate the many contributions made by the Indigenous peoples throughout our vibrant community.

ATTACHMENTS

None