

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCLAIMING)	RESOLUTION NO. 20-5133
OCTOBER 12, 2020 AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES')	
DAY IN THE GREATER PORTLAND AREA)	Introduced by Chief Operating Officer Marissa Madrigal in concurrence with Council President Lynn Peterson

WHEREAS, Metro recognizes the greater Portland area is built upon the ancestral homelands, villages and traditional use areas of the Indigenous People and tribes of this region who have been caretakers of these lands we cherish since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, we owe a special acknowledgement to the many tribes and bands including the Multnomah, Clackamas, Cascades, Clowewalla, Tualatin Kalapuya, Molalla, additional Bands of Chinook and their descendants who ceded these lands; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous People possess inherent rights which derive from their political status, cultures, traditions and histories and especially their connections and rights to lands and resources; and

WHEREAS, Metro values and is committed to promoting trustworthy and meaningful relationships with Indigenous People under a banner of truth, goodwill and hope; and

WHEREAS, it is important for us to never forget Oregon's and the United States' history of violence, forced migration, thefts of lands and resources, broken treaties, termination, relocation, and other assimilative policies that we resolve to never repeat; and

WHEREAS, the Indigenous population of the greater Portland area is over 70,000 people, who are members of or descended from over 380 tribes across the nation who have a unique political status and relationship with the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, historical and contemporary contributions and innovations of Indigenous People to the arts, education, health, economic development, environmental stewardship and civic community make the greater Portland area and Oregon a better place to live and work; and

WHEREAS, Metro has a responsibility to oppose the systematic racism and exclusion of Indigenous People in the greater Portland area through policies and practices that uphold tribal rights, ensure greater access and opportunity and create educational opportunities for the public;

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day transforms a celebration of colonialism, conquest, enslavement and genocide into a commitment to emphasize and realize a new future through partnerships and celebration of the enduring traditions, languages, governments and histories of Indigenous People;

WHEREAS, this history is a lesson to us all of the continued strength, vitality and resolution of Indigenous People to persist, and as we work together to forge a brighter future and achieve these ideals, we cannot shy away from the difficult aspects of our past; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, Metro shall recognize every second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the greater Portland area to honor and celebrate the many sacrifices and significant contributions made by Indigenous People and tribes throughout our vibrant community, and Metro encourages all businesses, organizations, public institutions, and community members to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day and take

time to deepen their understanding of the history and cultural significance of the Indigenous People and tribes of this land; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Metro shall continue its efforts to partner with tribal sovereigns and Indigenous People to promote prosperity and well-being in our community through implementing our programs and activities within the context of honoring and respecting tribal rights, cultural heritage and the pursuit of traditional life-ways for present and future generations.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this first day of October, 2020.



Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:



Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 20-5133, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 12, 2020 AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY IN THE GREATER PORTLAND AREA

Date: October 1, 2020
Department: Council Office
Meeting Date: October 1, 2020

Prepared by: Kate Fagerholm,
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ISSUE STATEMENT

The Metro Council has an opportunity to honor, acknowledge, and celebrate the resiliency of Indigenous communities in this region and beyond by adopting Resolution No. 20-5133 proclaiming the second Monday of every October as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the greater Portland area.

ACTION REQUESTED

Consideration and vote on Resolution No. 20-5133.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Advancing the Metro Council's proclamation for the second Monday of each October 2020 to be Indigenous Peoples' Day in the greater Portland area to honor and celebrate the many significant contributions and sacrifices made by Indigenous People and tribes throughout our vibrant community. We encourage all to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day and take time to deepen their understanding of the history and cultural significance of the Indigenous People and tribes of this land.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends the Metro Council adopt Resolution No. 20-5133.

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
- Council adoption of this resolution will further codify Metro's desire and efforts to build relationships, promote effective communication and coordination, and seek

opportunities for partnership with sovereign tribal partners, and implement its programs and activities within the context of honoring and respecting tribal rights, cultural heritage and traditional life-ways

- 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; Resolution No. 19-5036.
- Anticipated Effects
Metro shall recognize every second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day and October 12, 2020 will be recognized as the sixth annual Indigenous Peoples' Day in the greater Portland area.
- Financial Implications
None

BACKGROUND

Metro recognizes the greater Portland area is built upon the ancestral homelands, villages and traditional use areas of the Indigenous People and tribes of this region who have been caretakers of these lands we cherish since time immemorial.

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. In 2011, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, representing 59 tribes from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Northern California, Western Montana, and Alaska, and the National Congress of American Indians, the oldest and largest national organization of tribal governments, passed separate resolutions supporting changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day. Since 2015, Metro has joined other local governments including the City of Portland in recognizing the important history and culture of Indigenous People in our community, country, and around the world on the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples' Day. It is important for us to never forget Oregon's and the United States' history of violence, forced migration, thefts of lands and resources, broken treaties, termination, relocation, and other assimilative policies that we resolve to never repeat.

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.

In recent years Metro has strategically created staff positions such as the Parks and Nature Indigenous Community Liaison and Tribal Policy Advisor to work collaboratively to develop and implement policies and practices that create trust, partnership and enhance access and opportunity with tribal sovereign governments and Indigenous community members. These efforts reflect Metro's commitment to implement its programs and activities within the context of honoring and respecting tribal rights, cultural heritage and traditional life-ways.

Declaring the second Monday of each October and this October 12, 2020 as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the greater Portland area will honor and acknowledge the resiliency of Indigenous communities in this region and beyond. Metro shall continue its efforts to partner with tribal sovereigns and Indigenous People to promote prosperity and well-being in our community through implementing our programs and activities within the context of honoring and respecting tribal rights, cultural heritage and the pursuit of traditional life-ways for present and future generations.

ATTACHMENTS

None