



Mákkín Mak Muwékma Wolwóolum, 'Akkoyt Mak-Warep, Manne Mak Hiswi!
We Are Muwekma Ohlone, Welcome To Our Ancestral Homeland!

Muwékma Wolwóolum Warep Taššu ~
Muwekma Ohlone Tribal Land Acknowledgment
For San Jose's City Charter, San Jose, CA
Thámien Ancestral Muwekma Ohlone Territory

Horše túuxi! (Hor-sheh troo-hee). We would like to recognize that while we come together and meet in **The City of San Jose**, we are gathered on the ethno-historic tribal territory of the **Thámien (thah-me-in) Ohlone (oh-loh-knee)**-speaking tribal groups of the greater Santa Clara Valley, which includes the lands of the **Alsons, Thámiens, Matalans**, and the **Paleños** - whose tribal region was named after their powerful chief **Capitan Pala**, and the two Mexican land grants located in the East Hills above San Jose - and who were intermarried with the direct ancestors of some of the lineages enrolled in the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area, whom were missionized into Missions Santa Clara, San Jose, and San Francisco.

The present-day Muwekma Ohlone Tribe, with an enrolled Bureau of Indian Affairs documented membership of over 600 members, is comprised of all of the known surviving Indian lineages aboriginal to the San Francisco Bay region who trace their Tribe's ancestry through the Missions Santa Clara, San Jose, and San Francisco, during the advent of the Hispano-European empire into Alta California beginning in AD 1769; and are the successors and living members of the sovereign, historic, **previously Federally Recognized Verona Band of Alameda County, now formally recognized as the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area. Muwékma means La Gente – The People** in their Chochenyo-Ohlone language.

The lands on which the **City of San Jose** has been established, was and continues to be of great spiritual significance and historical importance for the Muwekma Ohlone Tribal People. This region extends to surrounding areas that held several **Túupentakhs (too-pen-tahks)**, traditional semi-subterranean spiritual roundhouses. **Túupentakhs** were places of celebrations, healing, spiritual cleansing, rituals, dances, intertribal feasts, and religious ceremonies which were once located on the historic **Lopé Yñigo's Landgrant - Rancho Posolmi y Pozitas de las Animas (Little Wells of Souls)**, and also at **Marcello, Pio, and Cristobal's Land Grant - Rancho Ulistac (oo-lees-tahk)**. Nearby ancestral heritage "shellmound sites" served as the Tribe's territorial monuments and traditional cemetery sites for high lineage families, craft specialists, and fallen warriors.

The region surrounding **the City of San Jose**, is where many of the Tribe's ancestral heritage cemetery and village sites are located especially adjacent to freshwater ways, where many have been destroyed as a result of unbridled development. These localities are viewed as historic and sacred places, and it is acknowledged that these lands had been previously settled, harvested, and controlled by ancestral Muwekma Tribal groups for many thousands of years. Today, the Muwekma Ohlone Tribal leadership and members work as stewards addressing and protecting many of their, up-to 10,000-year-old ancestral heritage village and cemetery sites, such as the old Holiday Inn Site located downtown along **Thámien Rúmmey** (the Guadalupe River) - to the 9,900-year-old Metcalfe Road Site, located along **Máyyan Rúmmey ~ Coyote Creek and Highway 101**.

The City of San Jose is established within their ancestral **Thámien Ohlone** Tribal ethnohistoric territory, which based upon the 18 unratified federal treaties of 1851-1852, includes the unceded ancestral lands of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area. Some of the enrolled Muwekma lineages are directly descended from ancestors aboriginal to the **Thámien Ohlone** tribal territory whose families had affiliation with Mission Santa Clara. Also some of the enrolled Muwekma

lineages are descended from direct ancestors from neighboring Ohlone tribes who were intermarried with Mission Santa Clara **Clareño** Indians.

It is important that we pause, and recognize, the history of the land of the **Thámien Ohlone** on which we gather to participate, learn, and honor, but also acknowledge that the **First People** of this region – the Muwekma Ohlone People, are alive and thriving members of the San Jose and broader Bay Area communities today.

Even though their tribe was denied a land base through the gross negligence of derelict BIA officials, after their Tribe was first federally recognized in 1906, it is because of the tenacity, strength, and legacy of their ancestors and Elders, that their Tribe has been able to maintain their identity and traditions, and keep their culture and their language alive, today. Furthermore, the Muwekma Ohlone Indian families have never left their aboriginal ancestral homelands of the Bay Area. Today, they attempt to repair the sustained ecological, environmental, and cultural devastation to their Tribe wrought by over 251 years of colonial processes of disenfranchisement through the Politics of Erasure. They are focused on keeping their traditional culture strong, while they work for a bright and favorable future for their children and ensuing generations, as they follow in the footsteps of their ancestors.

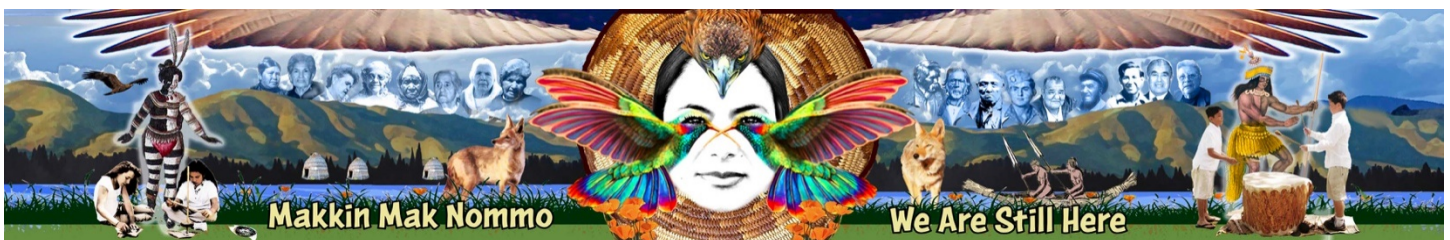
We respectfully request, that the good citizens of the City of San Jose and surrounding towns strive to be faithful stewards on behalf of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe by maintaining the bay, freshwater creeks, native plants, animal habitats, and the air we all breath. Furthermore, we request that the City of San Jose and surrounding towns within Santa Clara County honor the military service of the Muwekma men and women who have honorably served overseas during World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iraq and who are still serving in the United States Armed Forces today; and honor the tribal veterans and service members from California, North and South America who have served this country with dignity and honor.

In closing, it is of great spiritual significance to acknowledge the special relationship of this **Holše Warep** (*hol-sheh wah-rehp*) ~ **Beautiful Land** to the indigenous Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of this region, as well as to all people residing in the Bay Area. We respectfully request that everyone **who lives, works, or visits the City of San Jose and surrounding towns**, to be respectful of their aboriginal lands and natural habitats; and consistent with their principles of community, diversity, and inclusion, strive to be good citizens on behalf of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe (removed coma) on whose aboriginal lands you(removed coma) are guests.

Makış horše 'ek-hinnan. 'Útaspuṭ makkam. Mak 'lwe.

(Mak-keesh hor-sheh eh-k-hee-non. Oo-trahs-poot mahk-kahm. Mahk eew-weh.)

Thank you, and on behalf of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe, we hope you celebrate, honor, and stand in solidarity with all Indigenous People with their struggles to reverse the adverse colonial legacies affecting all people of color in San Jose, the greater Bay Area, California, the United States, and the Americas, as we gather and reflect on the sacred lands of the **Thámien Ohlone**. Aho!



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Alsons, Thámien, Matalans, and Paleños Thámien Ancestral Muwekma Ohlone Territory – Read by Public – October 25, 2021