

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
SAN JOSE PROCLAIMING THE SECOND MONDAY IN
OCTOBER AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY**

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day was first proposed in 1977 at the United Nations International Conference on Discrimination against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

WHEREAS, the United States endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (the "Declaration") on December 16, 2010 and the Declaration recognizes that "indigenous peoples have suffered from historic injustices as a result of, inter alia, their colonization and dispossession of their lands, territories and resources"; and

WHEREAS, Article 15 of the Declaration recognizes the right of indigenous peoples "to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information" and places an obligation on States to "take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among indigenous peoples and all other segments of society"; and

WHEREAS, the City of San José ("City") recognizes that Indigenous Peoples have lived and flourished on the lands that would later become known as the Americas since time immemorial, that Indigenous Peoples continue to live in and be stewards of these lands, and that many California cities are built upon the ancestral homelands of numerous Indigenous Nations; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes it is built upon the sacred lands of Indigenous Peoples, who have experienced a traumatic history of destruction, displacement, forced migration, marginalization, and disenfranchisement that continues to today, resulting from non-Indigenous settlement, yet they have preserved ancestral knowledge and demonstrated astounding resilience; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the sacrifices, value, and vast contributions made to our country and our community through Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, labor, spirituality, technology, science, philosophy, and culture, and through these contributions the City has developed and thrived; and

WHEREAS, the City has a responsibility to oppose the systemic racism towards Indigenous Peoples of the United States, which through genocide, colonization, and years of discrimination has perpetuated disproportionate outcomes for Indigenous Peoples including high rates of poverty and income inequality, negative health outcomes, homelessness, education, and other social crises; and

WHEREAS, the City promotes closing the equity gap for Indigenous Peoples through policies, practices and investments that reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, ensuring greater access and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, several communities throughout the United States have recognized Indigenous Peoples' Day, including the cities of San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Milwaukee, Madison, Minneapolis, Cambridge, Boulder, Spokane, East Lansing, Santa Fe, Anchorage, Albuquerque, St. Paul, Berkeley, Denver, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, Burbank, Austin, San Luis Obispo, and Flagstaff among many others; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to honor our nation's Indigenous history and contributions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE THAT:

1. The City of San José ("City") celebrates and honors the cultural and foundational contributions of Indigenous People to our history, past, present and future; and
2. The City affirms its responsibility to stand with Indigenous communities to protect their land and culture from further devastation; and
3. The City shall continue its efforts to promote the prosperity and well-being of the San José Indigenous community; and
4. Indigenous Peoples' Day shall be used to reflect upon the ongoing struggles of Indigenous People on this land, and to celebrate the thriving culture and value that Indigenous Peoples add to our City; and
5. In lieu of Columbus Day, the City shall annually observe and proclaim Indigenous Peoples' Day on the second Monday in October.

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ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

DISQUALIFIED:

SAM LICCARDO
Mayor

ATTEST:

TONI J. TABER, CMC
City Clerk