

## 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

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

Prepared by: Kate Fagerholm,  
[kate.fagerholm@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:kate.fagerholm@oregonmetro.gov),  
503-517-6912  
Presenter: Cassie Salinas

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### 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