

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