

Council Business Meeting

August 1, 2017

Title: Resolution Declaring Indigenous Peoples' Day in Ashland
From: Dennis Slattery Council Member
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Summary:

With general support and direction from Council at the July 17, 2017, study session, a resolution declaring the second Monday of each October as Indigenous Peoples' Day in Ashland has been drafted and presented for Council review and approval.

Actions, Options, or Potential Motions:

I move to approved a resolution titled, "A Resolution Declaring the Second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples' Day in Ashland."

Staff Recommendation:

N/A

Resource Requirements:

N/A

Policies, Plans and Goals Supported:

3. Support and empower our community partners

Background and Additional Information:

As presented at the July 17, 2017, study session, Southern Oregon University leadership recently received and honored a request from the SOU Diversity and Inclusion Committee (a coalition of SOU faculty, staff and students) to formally and publicly recognize Indigenous Peoples Day at SOU on the second Monday of each October.

Further expansion of this support and recognition was requested in the form of a resolution declaring the second Monday of each October Indigenous Peoples' Day in Ashland. This date was chosen to be consistent with several other Cities in Oregon who have made similar formal statements of support and recognition, including Portland, Eugene and Corvallis.

Indigenous Peoples' Day was first proposed to the United Nations International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas by a delegation of Native Nations. Since that time, many states and municipalities have voiced their support and provided recognition of the concept of raising awareness of the inequities and continued questioning of widespread celebration of a historic figure, Christopher Columbus, whose legacy on the Indigenous People of the Americas was far worse than common history lessons have espoused.

Attachments:

Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE SECOND MONDAY OF OCTOBER
AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY IN ASHLAND**

RECITALS:

- A. The City Council of the City of Ashland recognizes that the Indigenous peoples of the lands that would later become known as the Americas have lived on these lands since time immemorial.
- B. The City Council honors the fact that the community of Ashland is built upon the traditional homelands of the Takelma, Shasta and Klamath Basin peoples and affirms the legal rights of the nine federally recognized tribal nations in the State of Oregon and all Indigenous peoples everywhere.
- C. Indigenous People's Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas.
- D. The City of Ashland is committed to protecting and advocating for justice, human rights, and the dignity of all people who live, work and visit in Ashland, and to supporting the principles contained in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (the "Declaration") endorsed by the United States on December 16, 2010.
- E. 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".

THE CITY OF ASHLAND RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1.

The City of Ashland hereby declares the second Monday in October as Indigenous People's Day in Ashland as an opportunity for the community to reflect on the ongoing struggles of Indigenous people of this land, to celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the Indigenous Peoples of our region, and to stand in solidarity with Indigenous peoples everywhere.

SECTION 2.

The City Council encourages other businesses, organizations and public institutions to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day in Ashland the second Monday of each October.

This resolution was duly PASSED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2017, and takes effect upon signing by the Mayor.

Melisa Huhtala, City Recorder

SIGNED and APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2017.

John Stromberg, Mayor

Reviewed as to form:

David H. Lohman, City Attorney