



## A PROCLAMATION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY 2023

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**WHEREAS**, the United States endorsed the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on December 16, 2010 and recognizes that Indigenous People have suffered from historic injustices as a result of their colonization and dispossession of their lands, territories and resources,

**WHEREAS**, we recognize that Ashland is built on the ancestral homeland of the Ikirakutsum Band of the Shasta Nation, and we honor the Takelma, Athabaskan, and Shasta tribes with ancestral lands in and surrounding the geography of the Ashland watershed and gave bearing to future settlements that would become Ashland and,

**WHEREAS**, Indigenous people were forcibly removed from ancestral lands, displaced, assimilated, and banned from worshipping or performing many sacred ceremonies and yet they remain some of our greatest environmental stewards,

**WHEREAS**, we recognize the value of many contributions made to our community through Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, labor, spirituality, philosophy, arts, and cultural contributions and,

**WHEREAS**, we have responsibility to oppose the systemic racism toward Indigenous Peoples which perpetuates income inequality, disproportionate health, education, and social stability,

**WHEREAS**, on Indigenous People's Day, we celebrate Indigenous history and honor Native Americans for shaping the contours of this country since time immemorial.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tanya Graham, Mayor of the City of Ashland, Oregon, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim October 9, 2023, as Indigenous Peoples Day and call upon the people of Ashland to observe this day with appropriate reflection and learning and to continue our efforts to create a more just and equitable community. In Ashland we are Better Together.

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2023

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**Tonya Graham, Mayor**

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**Dana Smith, Clerk of the Council Pro Tem**

