



RESOLUTION NO. 40122

1 BY REQUEST OF MAYOR WOODARDS, DEPUTY MAYOR IBSEN, AND
2 COUNCIL MEMBERS BLOCKER AND USHKA

3 A RESOLUTION declaring the second Monday in October as “Indigenous
4 Peoples’ Day” in the City of Tacoma and reaffirming the City’s commitment
5 to promote the wellbeing and cultural vitality of Tacoma’s American Indian
6 and Indigenous community; providing for the presentation of the Puyallup
7 Nation Flag by the Puyallup Nation’s Color Guard at the City Council
8 meeting of October 2, 2018, to be flown in the City Council Chambers in
9 perpetuity thereafter; and initiating the process to name the bridge which
10 extends from Puyallup Avenue across the Puyallup River to Fife, commonly
11 known as the East Eells Street Bridge, with a name recognizing the
12 Puyallup Tribe of Indians’ current and historical presence.

13 WHEREAS the City recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples of the lands
14 that would later become known as the Americas have occupied these lands since
15 time immemorial, and

16 WHEREAS the City recognizes and honors the fact that Tacoma is built
17 upon the homelands and villages of Indigenous Peoples of this region, and, in
18 particular, recognizes and honors the ownership rights and land restored to the
19 Puyallup Tribe of Indians (“Puyallup Tribe”) under the Puyallup Land Claims
20 Settlement of 1990, and

21 WHEREAS the City recognizes that Native American tribes have made and
22 continue to make invaluable contributions to the diversity, arts, knowledge, labor,
23 technology, science, philosophy, and economy of the state of Washington, and
24 their historical and cultural contributions, particularly those of the Puyallup Tribe,
25 have substantially shaped the character of the City, and
26



1 WHEREAS the City has a responsibility to oppose institutional and
2 systematic bigotry and racism towards Indigenous People in the United States,
3 which has perpetuated high rates of poverty and income inequality; exacerbated
4 adverse health, education, and social outcomes; and contributed to
5 disproportionate incarceration, and
6

7 WHEREAS, in 2014, the City passed the Equity and Empowerment
8 Initiative to support human rights and opportunities for every person in the City to
9 achieve their full potential, which includes promoting policies and practices that
10 reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, ensuring equitable access and
11 opportunity for Indigenous Peoples, and honoring our nation’s indigenous roots,
12 history, and contributions, and
13

14 WHEREAS “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” was first proposed in 1977 by a
15 delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations-sponsored International
16 Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas,
17 and
18

19 WHEREAS, on December 16, 2010, the United States announced support
20 for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
21 (“Declaration”), which recognizes that “indigenous peoples have suffered from
22 historic injustices as a result of, inter alia, their colonization and dispossession of
23 their lands, territories and resources,” and
24
25
26



1 WHEREAS Article 15 of the Declaration recognizes the right of Indigenous
2 Peoples “to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and
3 aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public
4 information” and obliges Nation states to “take effective measures, in consultation
5 and cooperation with the indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and
6 eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good
7 relations among indigenous peoples and all other segments of society,” and
8

9 WHEREAS more than 70 jurisdictions in the United States celebrate
10 Indigenous Peoples’ Day, including the cities of Spokane, adopted in 2016;
11 Olympia, adopted in 2015; and Seattle, adopted in 2014, and
12

13 WHEREAS the Tacoma Human Rights Commission, established by the
14 City in 1967, is empowered to study and investigate problems of prejudice,
15 bigotry, racism, and discrimination, and to encourage and coordinate the
16 implementation of programs consistent with the needs and rights of all residents
17 of the City, and has recommended that the City Council designate the second
18 Monday of October as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” in order to officially celebrate
19 Indigenous Peoples and to promote tolerance, understanding, and friendship, and
20 combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination, and
21

22 WHEREAS, over the last year, the City and Puyallup Tribe have worked in
23 cooperation to build the relationship between the two governments through the
24 sponsoring of Canoe Journey, sharing in cultural events, and coming together in
25 conversation regularly on issues of importance to the two jurisdictions, and
26



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

WHEREAS these actions are a demonstration of the City’s ongoing commitment to strengthening the relationship between the Puyallup Tribe and the City; Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

Section 1. That the City strongly supports the proposition that “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” shall be an opportunity to celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the Indigenous Peoples of our region.

Section 2. That the City affirms that it will participate in annual celebrations and activities honoring Indigenous Peoples, and will encourage participation in such celebrations and activities on a Citywide basis.

Section 3. That the City firmly commits to continuing its efforts to promote the wellbeing and cultural vitality of Tacoma’s Indigenous community.

Section 4. That the City Council hereby declares the second Monday in October as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” in the City of Tacoma.

Section 5. That the Puyallup Nation Flag shall be presented by the Puyallup Nation’s Color Guard at the City Council meeting of October 2, 2018, and flown in the City Council Chambers in perpetuity thereafter.

Section 6. That the City will initiate the process of naming the bridge which extends from Puyallup Avenue across the Puyallup River to Fife, commonly



1 known as the East Eells Street Bridge, with a name recognizing the Puyallup
2 Tribe of Indians' current and historical presence.

3
4 Adopted _____

5
6 _____
7 Mayor

8
9 Attest: _____
10 City Clerk

11
12 Approved as to form: _____
13 City Attorney

14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26