



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Melanie Harding, Mayor’s Chief Policy Analyst, on behalf of Mayor Woodards
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution declaring “Indigenous Peoples’ Day,” Posting the Puyallup Nation Flag, and Naming a Bridge – October 2, 2018
DATE: September 25, 2018

SUMMARY:

Mayor Victoria Woodards requests a Resolution declaring the second Monday in October as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” in the City of Tacoma in perpetuity; directing the Puyallup Nation Flag to be posted in City Council Chambers during the Council meeting where the resolution is read and have the flag remain in perpetuity; and initiating the process of naming the bridge that extends from Puyallup Avenue across the Puyallup River to Fife with a name recognizing the Puyallup Tribe’s current and historical presence.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Victoria Woodards
Deputy Mayor Anders Ibsen
Councilmember Keith Blocker
Council Member Catherine Ushka

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

The resolution best aligns with the following City Council Strategic Priorities:

- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.
- Cultivate a vibrant cultural sector that fosters a creative, cohesive community.
- Encourage thriving residents with abundant opportunities for life-long learning.

BACKGROUND:

Over the last year, the City Council and I have worked in cooperation with the Puyallup Tribe to build the relationship between our two governments through the sponsoring of Canoe Journey, the sharing in cultural events, and in coming together in conversation regularly on issues of importance to our two jurisdictions. These actions build on the growth we have seen between our two governments this year.

The three items requested in the Resolution meet the approval of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, Tacoma’s Human Rights Commission and community groups have come forward to request the declaration of “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” in the City of Tacoma. More than 70 jurisdictions in the United States celebrate Indigenous Peoples’ Day, including the cities of Spokane (adopted in 2016), Olympia (adopted in 2015), and Seattle (adopted in 2014).

A Council Consideration Request was shared at the September 25, 2018 Study Session recommending this resolution be prepared for City Council consideration.

ISSUE:

The City wishes to demonstrate its ongoing commitment to strengthening the relationship between the Puyallup Tribe and to recognize its current and historical presence. Tacoma’s Human Rights Commission and community groups have come forward to request the declaration of “Indigenous Peoples’ Day.”



ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council could modify or reject this resolution.

RECOMMENDATION:

The sponsors of this legislation recommend strengthening the relationship with the Puyallup Tribe by adopting this resolution to declare the second Monday in October as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day, posting the Puyallup Nation flag in the City Council Chambers, and to name the bridge that extends from Puyallup Avenue across the Puyallup River to Fife with a name recognizing the Puyallup Tribe’s current and historical presence.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact related to this resolution.