

RESOLUTION NO. 1186

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR DECLARING THE SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER AS “INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ DAY” AND THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AS “NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH” IN THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR; PROVIDING FOR THE PUYALLUP NATION FLAG TO BE FLOWN IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS EACH OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER IN PERPETUITY.

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

WHEREAS, the City recognizes and honors the fact that Gig Harbor is built upon the homelands and villages of Indigenous Peoples of this region better known as a band of the Puyallup Tribe called sxw̓əbabč (sk-whuh-babsh); and

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

WHEREAS, the City has a responsibility to oppose institutional and systematic bigotry and racism towards Indigenous People in the United States; and

WHEREAS, “Indigenous Peoples’ 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; and

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

WHEREAS, Article 15 of 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 obliges Nation 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,” and

WHEREAS, many jurisdictions in the United States celebrate “Indigenous Peoples’ Day,” including the cities of Spokane, adopted in 2016; Olympia, adopted in 2015; Seattle, adopted in 2014; and Tacoma, adopted in 2018; and

WHEREAS, President George H.W. Bush declared the first “National Native American Heritage Month” in 1990 at the request of Congress; and

WHEREAS, the City and Puyallup Tribe are committed to work in cooperation to build the relationship between the two governments; and

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, the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor hereby resolves as follows:

Section 1. The City strongly supports the proposition that “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” and “Native American Heritage Month” shall be opportunities to celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the Indigenous Peoples of our region.

Section 2. The City firmly commits to continuing its efforts to promote the wellbeing and cultural vitality of Gig Harbor’s Indigenous community.


Section 3. The City Council hereby declares the second Monday in October as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” in the City of Gig Harbor.

Section 4. The City Council hereby declares the month of November as “Native American Heritage Month” in the City of Gig Harbor.

Section 5. The Puyallup Nation Flag shall be flown in the City Council Chambers during the months of October and November each year in perpetuity.

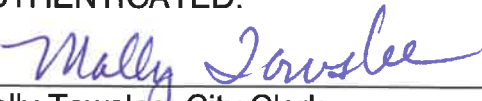
Section 6. At the beginning of each Regular Business Meeting of the City Council during the months of October and November, the Mayor shall read the following land acknowledgment: ““Before we begin this Council Meeting we would like to recognize that we are gathered on not only the ancestral and traditional lands of the sxʷəbabč band of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, but also on the site of one of the largest and longest standing historic villages of the people, the original inhabitants of Gig Harbor.”

PASSED by the City Council this 28th day of September, 2020.



Kit Kuhn, Mayor

AUTHENTICATED:



Molly Towslee, City Clerk

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: 09/16/20
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: 09/24/20
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