

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-45

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA, DECLARING THE SECOND MONDAY OF OCTOBER AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY IN THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, the City of Flagstaff recognizes that it is built on lands known and loved and inhabited by people since time immemorial who are indigenous to the region;

WHEREAS, the City of Flagstaff was built and is still energized and maintained and shaped today with Indigenous peoples' knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, arts, and commerce;

WHEREAS, advocating for and supporting actions that lead to the advancement of social and environmental justice for Indigenous communities per City Council goals and objectives for 2017-2019;

WHEREAS, the City of Flagstaff understands that government entities, organizations, and public institutions have a responsibility to enact policies to combat racism and to build justice and equity for Indigenous people and all people who suffer from the effects of prejudice and discrimination;

WHEREAS, the observance of Columbus Day is a celebration of genocide against Indigenous peoples;

WHEREAS, in August 2016, the Indigenous Circle of Flagstaff requested and obtained Flagstaff City Council approval to convene a series of forums to learn more about the challenges facing Indigenous people in our community, along with their ideas for improving the City's policies and practices regarding Youth and Education, Homelessness, Elder and Healthcare, Business and Economic Development, Police and Criminal Justice, and Environmental Justice;

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2017, the City Council voted to accept and adopt a list of recommendations gathered from these Indigenous Community Forums under the headings of Visibility, Economic Inclusion, a Community/Cultural Center, Education, Wellness, Housing, and Transportation, and directed City staff to develop and implement a strategic plan to realize these recommendations;

WHEREAS, the Flagstaff City Council in the current fiscal year has committed funds to create a City staff position to assist in these efforts, which will include working with Indigenous communities to develop that strategic plan with measurable objectives, timetables, and transparent accountability structures, as well as performing a needs assessment and scoping options for a City commission focused on Indigenous priorities;

ENACTMENTS:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That in pursuit of equitably-shared responsibility to promote knowledge about Indigenous peoples, unify communities, combat prejudice, and eliminate discrimination against Indigenous peoples, the City of Flagstaff does hereby resolve the second Monday of October each year to be Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Section 2. That the City of Flagstaff formally encourages all local businesses, organizations, and public institutions to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day, and will publicize and where possible financially support events throughout the year that encourage understanding and engagement with Indigenous peoples, their traditions, cultures, resilience, and contributions.

Section 3. That the City of Flagstaff commits to support efforts to educate the public about historic and contemporary Indigenous human rights concerns.

Section 4. That in order to become a city that truly honors its Indigenous roots and strives to be a better steward of the Indigenous land it is built upon, on Indigenous Peoples' Day and throughout the year, the City of Flagstaff reaffirms its commitment to enact policies and ordinances within its authority to protect Indigenous revered, beloved, significant, and sacred places, including the "San Francisco Peaks," from unhealthy and harmful treatment.

Section 5. That the City of Flagstaff will develop and implement an outreach program to regularly inform Indigenous peoples of Flagstaff as well as the public of its progress in upholding the commitments made in this Resolution.

Section 6. That the City of Flagstaff recognizes that this is not yet a celebration of great accomplishments; it is a first step in building a solid, respectful, and reciprocal relationship with Indigenous peoples, communities, and nations.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Flagstaff this 2nd day of October 2018.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY