



STAFF REPORT	
SUBJECT: Discussion and Consideration of Amendments to the City’s Environmental Guidelines to Include Native Sovereign Nation Consultation Guidelines	MEETING DATE: Nov. 21, 2024
SUBMITTED BY: Alan D. Flora, City Manager	
PURPOSE OF REPORT: <input type="checkbox"/> Information only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Item	

WHAT IS BEING ASKED OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

The City Council is being asked to consider amending the City’s current environmental guidelines to include more detail on management of tribal cultural resources and consultation.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

In 2016 the City adopted a set of environmental guidelines, including Appendix O “Native American Tribal Consultation Program”. While this is only one small part of the guidelines, it was in part, to implement the requirements of AB 52 from 2015. Back on October 20, 2022, the Council first discussed new guidelines and embarked on a process of consultation on the guidelines that has lasted over 2 years.

Historically, there have been three tribes with connections to ancestral lands within the City of Clearlake boundaries; the Elem Indian Colony of Pomo Indians of the Sulphur Bank Rancheria, the Koi Nation of Northern California, and the Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California. While in large part consultation and coordination between the City as lead agency and the tribes has worked quite well, that has not always been the case. Staff hoped that by adopting a more comprehensive policy framework related to tribal cultural resources would result in more predictability, less room for disagreement, and a more streamlined and economical project completion.

The draft policy before you has undergone many iterations, but has ultimately been brought back in a format that more comprehensively summarizes the existing requirements of the City under state and federal law, but does not significantly expand the City’s responsibilities beyond those requirements.

OPTIONS:

1. Adopt Volume 1: Native Sovereign Nation Consultation Guidelines
2. Provide alternative direction to staff.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None \$ Budgeted Item? Yes No

Budget Adjustment Needed? Yes No If yes, amount of appropriation increase: \$

Affected fund(s): General Fund Measure P Fund Measure V Fund Other:

Comments:

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT:

- Goal #1: Make Clearlake a Visibly Cleaner City
- Goal #2: Make Clearlake a Statistically Safer City
- Goal #3: Improve the Quality of Life in Clearlake with Improved Public Facilities
- Goal #4: Improve the Image of Clearlake
- Goal #5: Ensure Fiscal Sustainability of City
- Goal #6: Update Policies and Procedures to Current Government Standards
- Goal #7: Support Economic Development

SUGGESTED MOTIONS:

- Attachments:** Volume 1: Native Sovereign Nation Consultation Guidelines