

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-85**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COACHELLA, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING THE SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF COACHELLA; ENCOURAGING OTHER INSTITUTIONS TO RECOGNIZE THE DAY; AND REAFFIRMING THE CITY COUNCIL'S COMMITMENT TO PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING AND GROWTH OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY'S INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY**

**WHEREAS**, long before Europeans settled in North America, the ancestors of Native Americans were the original, indigenous inhabitants, explorers, and settlers of the lands that have since become the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, it is impossible to fully understand the history of California without understanding the history of the indigenous people who have lived within the current boundaries of the state for thousands of years; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of California is home to more people of Native American heritage than any other state in the country; and

**WHEREAS**, there are currently 109 federally recognized Native American tribes in California and several additional tribes petitioning for federal recognition through the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coachella City Council 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 Council recognizes the fact that the Coachella Valley is built upon the homelands and villages of the Indigenous Peoples of this region, without whom the building of the City would not have been possible; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council values the many contributions made to our community through Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, arts and cultural contribution that has substantially shaped the character of the City of Coachella; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has a responsibility to oppose the systematic racism towards Indigenous people in the United States, which perpetuates high rates of poverty and income inequality, exacerbating disproportionate health, education, and social crises; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council promotes the closing of the equity gap for Indigenous Peoples through policies and practices that reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, ensure greater access and opportunity, and honor our nation's indigenous roots, history, and contributions; and

**WHEREAS**, the City seeks to promote events related to indigenous culture; 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**, the United States endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (the "Declaration") on December 16, 2010 and the Declaration 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**, in 2011 the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, representing 59 Tribes from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Northern California, Western Montana and some Alaskan Tribes, passed resolution #11-57 to "Support to Change Columbus Day, (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of October) to Indigenous Peoples' Day."

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Coachella, California, as follows:

**SECTION 1. Recitals.** The City Council hereby finds that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein as substantive findings of this Resolution.

**SECTION 2. Declaring Indigenous Peoples' Day, the Second Monday in October as a City Holiday.** The City Council declares the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day and as a City holiday in the City of Coachella. Adoption of this Resolution recognizes the second Monday in October as a holiday for City departments and employees.

**SECTION 3.** The City Council 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. The City Council encourages other businesses, organizations, and public institutions to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day. The City Council firmly commits to continue its efforts to promote the well-being and growth of The Coachella Valley's Indigenous community. The City Council directs the City Manager to work with City Departments, Native American tribes and historians to correct omissions of Native American presence in public places, resources and cultural programming.

**SECTION 4.** The City Council affirms its willingness to organize and participate in an annual Indigenous Peoples' Day celebrations and activities. The City recognizes Indigenous Peoples' Day as a day to celebrate the history, culture, and governments of indigenous peoples of our state. The City Council encourages its partners and vendors to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day on the second Monday in October. The City Council encourages all schools to teach about the history, culture, and governments of indigenous peoples of our state and give special focus to the history, culture, and governments of indigenous peoples on the second Monday of October.

**SECTION 5. CEQA.** The City Council hereby finds and determines that this Resolution will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore

is not a project within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and the State CEQA Guidelines, section 15378(b)(5).

**SECTION 5. Severability.** If any provision of this Resolution or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Resolution are severable. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this Resolution irrespective of the invalidity of any particular portion thereof.

**SECTION 6. Effective Date of Resolution.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.

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Steven A. Hernandez  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Angela M. Zepeda  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Carlos Campos  
City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA            )  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE        ) ss.  
CITY OF COACHELLA            )

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing Resolution No. 2022-85 was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Coachella at a regular meeting thereof, held on the day of 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022 by the following vote of Council:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Andrea J. Carranza, MMC  
Deputy City Clerk