

ate Backup

Late Backup

RESOLUTION NO. 20171005-xxx

WHEREAS, October 12, 1492 marks Columbus Day, a day to recognize the spirit of exploration but we must also acknowledge the pain and suffering reflected in the stories of Native Americans and indigenous peoples who had long resided on this land prior to European explorers ~~one of the most significant dates to all indigenous people of the Americas—the beginning of the colonization of indigenous people that forever changed their identity, cultures and achievements;~~ and

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations and was sponsored by the International Conference of Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

WHEREAS, On September 26, 2008, Congress passed H.J. Res. 62 nationally recognizing American Indian Heritage Day in the United States; and

WHEREAS, numerous cities and state governments within the United States now recognize Columbus Day as Indigenous Peoples' Day in an effort to create a path of healing and reconciliation; and

WHEREAS, the area around present-day Austin is one of the longest continually inhabited sites in North America and was home to many different groups, bands, and tribes of Indigenous Peoples for at least 13,000 years; and

WHEREAS, ~~the City of Austin 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 of Austin 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**, 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, Columbus day is an opportunity for all Americans to celebrate both "the spirit of exploration" that Columbus embodied, pay tribute to our Indigenous heritage and embrace the multiculturalism that defines America

~~**WHEREAS**, honoring the role of Columbus as a historical figure promotes values of intolerance and violence that are still common in today's world and opposed to the values of the citizens of Austin; **NOW, THEREFORE,**~~

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The Austin City Council hereby declares the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the City of Austin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City of Austin affirms its willingness to participate in annual Indigenous Peoples' Day celebrations and activities.

~~**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**~~

~~The City of Austin strongly encourages Austin Public Schools to include the teaching of Indigenous Peoples' history.~~

~~**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**~~

~~The City of Austin encourages other businesses, organizations, and public institutions to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day.~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City of Austin firmly commits to continue its efforts to promote the well-being and growth of Austin's American Indian and Indigenous community.

ADOPTED: _____, 2017

ATTEST: _____
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk