



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – May 24, 2017 Agenda Item 1

Voting Session

Resolution Recognizing the Second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day in Takoma Park

Recommended Council Action

Vote on the resolution.

Context with Key Issues

The State of Vermont and a growing number of cities and towns in the United States have recognized the second Monday of October as Indigenous People's Day, re-imagining Columbus Day as an opportunity to celebrate indigenous heritage and resiliency.

Although it is a federal holiday, Columbus Day is not a holiday for City of Takoma Park employees, and City government functions and meetings continue on their usual schedule. This resolution would not change that practice.

Council Priority

A Livable Community for All

Environmental Impact of Action

N/A

Fiscal Impact of Action

No fiscal impact is contemplated at this time.

Racial Equity Impact of Action

We do not believe this Council action will adversely affect any particular racial group.

Attachments and Links

Draft resolution.

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2017-__
RECOGNIZING THE SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER AS
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY IN TAKOMA PARK**

- WHEREAS, Columbus Day is observed as a federal holiday on the second Monday in October; and
- WHEREAS, the day recognizes the October 12, 1492 landing of Christopher Columbus on an island in the Caribbean, marking the Europeans' first contact with the "New World;" and
- WHEREAS, this contact began centuries of settlement on lands already occupied by native peoples of the Americas and exploitation of the New World's seemingly endless resources; and
- WHEREAS, indigenous Americans experienced conquest, enslavement, displacement, and disease which decimated the population; and
- WHEREAS, native people who were removed from this area likely include the Piscataway, the Anacostank, Pamunkey, Mattapanient, Nangemeick [nan-ga-mik], and Tauxehent; and
- WHEREAS, the State of Vermont and a growing number of cities and towns in the United States have recognized the second Monday of October as Indigenous People's Day, re-imagining Columbus Day as an opportunity to celebrate indigenous heritage and resiliency; and
- WHEREAS, although it is a federal holiday, Columbus Day is not a holiday for City of Takoma Park employees and City government functions and meetings continue on their usual schedule; and
- WHEREAS, recognizing the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day will serve as a reminder to reflect on the native people who were here before us, and their descendants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND THAT the City will recognize Indigenous Peoples Day on the second Monday in October of each year to acknowledge and celebrate the culture and sacrifice of the first people on this land.

Adopted this ____ day of May, 2017.