



# City of Takoma Park, Maryland

## Mayoral Proclamation

### Indigenous People's Day

- 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, and Tauxehent; and
- WHEREAS, the City Council recognized the second Monday of October as Indigenous People's Day by adopting Resolution 2017-39, 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 Indigenous Peoples Day serves as a reminder to reflect on the native people who were here before us, and their descendants.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KATE STEWART, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, on behalf of the City Council, staff, and residents, hereby proclaim October 14, 2019 as Indigenous People's Day in Takoma Park to acknowledge and celebrate the culture and sacrifice of the first people on this land.

Proclaimed this 2nd day of October, 2019.

---

Kate Stewart  
Mayor